Message

From: Geselbracht, Jeanne [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BC375806A9EA4394BA2418872DCE3838-JGESELBR]

Sent: 11/17/2017 11:07:26 PM

Subject: Rosemont

Attachments: DIB0001; DIB0002; DIB0003; DIB0004; DIB0005; DIB0006; rosemont pit chemhydrodk.txt.htm; ROSEMONT NOI

comments EPA 8-08.pdf; Rosemont NOI.doc; GabrielleGiffordsForestService.jpg; GabrielleGiffordsForestService2.jpg;

GabrielleGiffordsForestService.jpg; GabrielleGiffordsForestService2.jpg; March 18th 2008 (2).doc;

DesertViewMeetingBus.jpg; rosemont-noi-news-release 031108.pdf;

jd-rosemont[1].mine.EIS.process.news.release.pdf

i)i

Jeanne Geselbracht Environmental Review Office (CED-2) U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026

--- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:07 PM ----

From: Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 01/30/2008 01:38 PM

Subject: Fw: Vail/Empire area mining issues

Hi Jeanne,

A community member Litizen Name / Ex. 6 call last Friday concerned about how a proposed mining operation in Arizona will effect her community. Her main concerns are that her drinking water supply will be taken and/or contaminated by the mines, increased truck traffic (hauling potentially dangerous materials), and cumulative impacts in general.

Most of these issues are new to me and I'm not sure who to put her in contact with or how to best respond.

Wilson Yee in water gave me a few leads from the water enforcement perspective but this appears to be more of a mining issue.

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

I'd like to give [citizen Name / Ex. 6] call back this week. Do you know who in the agency (or locally) would be best for [citizen Name / Ex. 6] to follow up with or have any other suggestions for how to address her issues?

Thanks!

Zoe

Zoe Heller
Environmental Justice Program
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, R9
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--- Forwarded by Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US on 01/30/2008 11:54 AM ----

01/28/2008 09:51 AM

To Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

CC

Subject Fw: Vail/Empire area mining issues

Dear Zoe,

I think that Jeanne Geselbracht in ERO is very knowledgeable about mines and would probably have an overview of who in the Region & other agencies works on mining issues. Maybe that could help this person?

Thank you for covering this!

Lily Lee, Manager Environmental Justice Program US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 75 Hawthorne St. (CED-1) San Francisco, CA 94105 Tel: 415-972-3795, Fax: 415-947-8026

--- Forwarded by Lily Lee/R9/USEPA/US on 01/28/2008 09:50 AM ----

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

Hello!

My name is citizen Name / Ex. 6 and I spoke with Zoe on Friday, January 25th, but I also wanted to pass along some information about some mines that are going to potentially impact our area that are involved in the State arena vs. the National arena. Our neighborhood is grossly overrepresented with potential mines. Currently, within 20 miles of my home and community, there are plans for 4 renewed and new mining operations.

Here is the Plan of Operation for Rosemont Ranch Copper Mine (open pit)-(Federal/Private lands)

http://www.augustaresource.com/section.asp?pageid=4301

Save the Scenic Santa Ritas is the organization that has been working against that particular mine-

http://scenicsantaritas.org/

Additionally, there are 3 other mines as follows: (State lands)

Andrada Mine - Off Sahuarita Road

Area of Impact: Sections 21, township 17 south, Range 16 East, Northern Santa Rita Mountains, Pima County AZ. This is a split-estate claim meaning the State of Arizona owns the land and the Bureau of Land Management owns the mineral rights. W. R. Henderson AZ Properties, LLC. AZ State Land: 100 Acres - 140 Acres.

AZ Cal Portland / Davidson Canyon Wash - Off Old Sonoita Hwy

Area of Impact: Sections 19 & 30, T.17S., R 17 E., Northern Empire Mountains bridging the Davidson Canyon, Pima County, AZ. This is a mineral lease renewal application on state trust land that is immediately adjacent to the Davidson

Canyon and located within the boundaries of Pima County's proposed Davidson Canyon Natural Preserve. The two blocks of leases straddle the Davidson Canyon and California Portland Cement proposes building a road through this sensitive wash for access from the east to the Old Sonoita Hwy.

Seel - off Old Sonoita Hwy - other side of wash.

Area of Impact: Section 29, T.17s., R. 17E., northern Empire Mountains, pima county, AZ. This is a mineral lease renewal application on state trust land that is immediately adjacent to the Las Cienegas NCA. This area has never been mined and has been used exclusively for cattle grazing. Access to this site requires crossing the Davidson Canyon.

The Empire Fagan Coalition has been working on those mines.

http://empirefagan.org/news.php

We live in what is technically the Empire Elementary School District in Pima County although our daughter attends the Vail School District. I own a small business between the RR tracks in Vail, AZ. It is aprox 17 miles from our home in the Empire Mountains, SE of Vail, AZ. Our mailing address also has the Vail, AZ zip code. It is a mixed use area with older and newer manufactured homes and some site built houses.

In the 17 miles from our home to my store- 4 miles down a small dirt road (3 miles dirt 1 mile asphalt in between dirt through a mountain pass) and then 12 miles of Sonoita highway 83 and a short portion of Interstate 10 and into our very tiny town of Vail, there are the following environmental polluters:

- Proposed Rosemont Copper Mine-Aprox 4 miles south of our turnoff off Sonoita Highway 83.
- NextRad on the mountain range just NW of our property
- Too many to count -unmitigated small bore holes and mine shafts dating from late 1800's to the 1960's
- The three mines above that the Empire Fagan Coalition has been working against
- Three current High Intensity Electric Transmission Lines (I am not sure of the correct terminology for the huge lines)
- 2 Proposed new TEP Substations (Cienega and Mountain View)-(My computer at home will not let me download PDFs right now so I cannot pull up the documentation of electric items to view. We are on satellite which can be flaky. I believe this has the info but I am not sure)http://www.tucsonelectric.com/Company/News/Vail/docs/VailAreaFactsheet.pdf There has been resistance the location of the proposed Cienega Substation by a subdivision called New Dawn Estates (I believe). A community meeting is being held Tuesday which I will attend.
- 1 New Proposed TEP High Intensity Transmission Line
- 1 filled in Titan 2 Missile site (which is now used as an illegal shooting range)
- A few cell towers (I am not sure offhand how many)
- Two Union Pacific RR tracks.
- Kinder Morgan pipeline (very close to my store and a manufactured home community called Fast Horse Ranch)
- El Paso Natural gas line -(very close to the Shrine of Santa Rita and the same community mentioned above).
- Gravel/Rock pit near an old town called Marsh just to the east of Vail

People tend to forget about the 3 state land involved mines because of the big fight over the copper mine. However, those 3 are also going to impact the water and wells in area also. These 3 projects would enter on to Sonoita Highway 83 from Sahuarita Road or Old Sonoita Highway before entering on to Interstate 10.

We do not have the road infrastructure on Sonoita Highway 83. There is ONE access road to access Interstate-10 to the north. 83 for the most part is a small two lane scenic highway which is shared by wide loads that cannot pass under a bridge on the interstate, tourists, commuters, bicyclists, Border Patrol and wildlife. It is a curvy mountain road with zero shoulders in some places. The speed limit is 55 in most areas. Although there are pull outs there are also bus stops on the highway where students cross to get on the bus. We have worked out the number of school bus stops on and along Sonoita Highway per day and it exceeds 50.

If you read Rosmont's plan of operations, there is an intention to run loads of copper concentrate trucks (full) 4 times an hour. (I believe it is 24 hours a day, but I cannot pull up the PDF right now to verify, so I might be wrong). All of their tables are based on round trips, so the numbers must be doubled to have an accurate number of times the actual trucks will be on the highway. There be other trucks running with sulfuric acid, diesel and other chemicals.

This highway/area is NOT in a fire district. It has to depend on outside fire districts to respond. The area is served by a broad Sheriff's district and is nearly an hour from the closest sub station. When there is an accident and toxic spill, how long will it take for a response team? If you go to the Pima County Map Guide here: http://www.dot.pima.gov/gis/maps/mapguide/ you can verify the sheriff and fire district info here. These truck loads do not take into consideration the mine employees that will have to drive to work, even if they shuttle and carpool. The mine is intended to be a 24 hour operation as well.

I found two permits for Exempt wells in the Rosemont area they pulled when Rosemont was still using the name Augusta. The company never switched those two permits into the Rosemont name. Those permits are good until July 2008. Rosemont now has numerous transferred water rights and wells they acquired when they purchased private land. Most of the residents out here are on private/shared or we haul. My husband and I do a little of each

If you look at the map and the contours in the plan of operation, you will see that our communities are all downstream! Our storm water is either going to be blocked, lessened or possibly contaminated by the mine.

It is my understanding that the Sahuarita Heights folks are entering into negotiations with the Rosemont corporation but I cannot speak for them.

http://www.azstarnet.com/sn/biz-topheadlines/221833

It is much more complex for those of us on the eastern slopes of the Santa Ritas-including the 3 other proposed mines.

At any rate, I have photos and documentation for all of the information I given you today. If you need any of it, please let me know and I can email it to you. The majority of it is not stored here so please give me advance notice

Also, you can click on the same link as above but click on

Arizona MapGuide Map and then click on to see the Arizona Department of Water Resource areas and also how many wells are registered with the ADWR in our area http://www.dot.pima.gov/gis/maps/mapguide/. There is a proccess to figure out which are owned by Rosemont or Phelps Dodge or an assortment of other mines which is tedious and not really needed to get an idea of how many wells are in the area. The aproximate (and these are aprox) areas are T19S, R15, R16 and R17, T18S R15, R16 and R17, T17 S R 15 R 16 and R 17. There are more further north but it is confusing on the computer-you will get the idea when you turn on the the number of ADWR registered wells.

Thanksl

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

on 11/17/2017 03:07 PM ----

From: Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 03/13/2008 11:35 AM

Subject: Fw: Another Email from a concerned citizen in the Cienega Corridor/Upper Santa Cruz region re Open House

FYI

Zoe Heller
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---- Forwarded by Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US on 03/13/2008 11:35 AM ----

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

03/12/2008 09:44 PM

To <rinconvalleyis@hotmail.com>

CC

Subject Another Email from a concerned citizen in the Cienega Corridor/Upper Santa Cruz region re Open House

Hi folks,

As you probably know by now, the National Forest has sent out a letter stating an intention to hold scoping meetings for the Rosemont Mine Environmental Impact Statement. Unfortunately, the first three meetings in round one are being held well outside of the area where the direct impacts will immediately occur if the mine is approved. Here is another letter from a concerned resident, this one from the president of the Santa Rita Foothills Community Association and from the Corona de Tucson area.

Thank you

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

Subject: meeting on Rosemont Mine Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 20:50:22 -0700

Ms. Schwel, Can you explain to me why your Department has these proposed meetings located as far from the affected area as they are? The residents of Corona de Tucson, who are in the area that will be most adversely affected by this environmental disaster will be required to use fungible resources of great cost to us to reach these remote sights. Is this on purpose?

Realize, that the taxpaying residents of the Corona de Tucson Fire District pay for and provide the closest emergency responders to the highways and byways that will have 20+ ton ore trucks traversing them. When we explained this to the Augusta Resource people, we were assured there would be first aid capabilities at the mine site. Frankly, we are much more concerned with the danger to our medics and firefighters who will be dispatched to incidents and accidents involving citizens who are not mine employees but are the victims of accidents with these giant ore trucks on a winding mountain highway, US 83, and the other less well maintained county roads available to the mine transports. The taxpayers of our Fire District will pick up the tab or there will be no responders.

We have also been warned by the City of Tucson Water Department that our wells may well run dry in the near future. Therefore, the thought that the mines will be using inordinate amounts of our precious drinking water give us cause for great alarm.

Surely your Department can find a more strategic location for your meetings with these than the 3 listed. The Vail School District is more than generous in the use of their facilities. Meetings on these mines have been held at the schools in the past.

Sincerely,

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

From: Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 03/13/2008 11:34 AM

Subject: Fw: No Vail Area Public Meetings? Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement

Hi Jeanne-

I just got off the phone with Citizen Name / Ex. 6 She reiterated much of what she emailed me below.

I emailed her the Citizen's Guide to NEPA last week. She finds the document very helpful and has been using information from it to try to enhance the public involvement process.

Any ideas on how we can help her further? I'm not familiar enough with the NEPA process to determine if we can influence the Forest Service in their public involvement practices. I'm happy to make phone calls to them if it is appropriate. I know we are a neutral 3rd party so I also do not want to stir up any waters.

Thanks, Zoe

Zoe Heller
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---- Forwarded by Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US on 03/13/2008 11:31 AM ----

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

To Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

03/12/2008 05:51 PM

CC

Subject No Vail Area Public Meetings? Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement

Zoe,

Here is the response I received from the Forest Service when I inquired as to how we could get a 1st round Open House in our area. I am EXTREMELY frustrated so I do apologize. I did use information out of the Citizen's Guide to NEPA when I responded, again asking for a public meeting in our area.

We have been completely overwhelmed with environmental polluters, as you know from our discussions and now we finally have a chance to enter into a Federal discussion and the meetings are being held in areas that are nearly 45 minutes to an hour away in each and every case (if not more).

Our community exhibits the behaviour of learned helplessness and this does not help. Especially given that many folks in my immediate neighborhood are working class people who usually drive quite some distance to get home from work in the first place and to have to go back and drive another 45 minutes to an hour and use up even more gas is a burden. These are the people (including myself) who stand to to live within 3-5 miles of the proposed mine and use the same two lane highway that all of the copper ore, diesel, sulfuric acid, semi trucks will be using. So do our school buses with school children. This isn't just about bird watching and tourism. (not to minimize those important aspects)

Our County administrator was so concerned about the lack of an Open House in our area that he issued a memorandum on the subject today.

The reasoning given by Ms. Schewel in a follow up email was that the contractor could not find a location big enough for a first round meeting in the Vail/Cienega Corridor Area. That is simply not true. We have held MANY large town halls in the schools here. Even an Open House in East Tucson (which is still not acceptable in my opinion) would still be closer than the other locations. I have given her my contact information and asked to have her contractor touch base with me ASAP.

I need ideas!!! I really want this to be fair for my community which is the community that is going to feel **immediate** direct and indirect effects if this mine is allowed to go into operation. (and even before -during the constuction phase)

Thanks for any help or ideas!

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

> Subject: Re: No Vail Area Public Meetings? Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement for
> To: Citizen Name / Ex. 6
> From: hschewel@fs.fed.us
> Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 16:55:24 -0700
>
> chizen Name / Ex. 6 you do not need to be present at a public meeting to comment. > Comments will be accepted throughout the process. For those who do not
> attend meetings, an initial public comment period runs through April 18,
> 2008. Agencies or individuals can submit comments by mail, FAX, or email as
> follows:
>
 Mail comments to Team Leader, Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado National Forest, 300 W. Congress St., Tucson, Arizona 85701
>
> FAX comments to (520) 388–8305, ATTN: Rosemont Team Leader
>
> Or email to comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us >
> For questions about the public meetings or the comment period, you can call
> (520) 388-8300.
>
> Additional meetings will be scheduled as needed.
> >
>
> Heidi
> Coronado National Forest
> Media Officer, Fire Information
> Communications and Technology Team > Collateral: FOET Chair
> (520) 749-7720 FAX (520) 749-7723
> hschewel@fs.fed.us
>
> <
Citizen Name / Ex. 6
⇒ Citizen Name / Ex. 6
> <hschewel@fs.fed.us>, Scott</hschewel@fs.fed.us>
> 03/11/2008 05:28 Eagan-Ray Carrolls Office > PM <scott.egan@pima.gov>, Californ Name / Ex. 6</scott.egan@pima.gov>

Citizen Name / Ex. 6 > > > Subject > No Vail Area Public Meetings? > Coronado National Forest to Prepare > Environmental Impact Statement for > > > > Ms. Schewel, > I do not mean to be rude, but as a resident who is going to directly > affected by the Rosemont Mine if it is put into place I am absolutely > offended that the closest places to give my public opinion are close to 45 > minutes/hour away in every case. > I am not exactly sure how we were missed as our community is one that is > located directly in the path of the Rosemont Mine's projected traffic > pattern on Sonoita Highway 83 which our Vail School District Buses uses for > more than 50 stops per day, I commute twice a day on the same highway, > Rosemont Mine's Plan of Operation states it will block a main tributary > (Barrel Canyon) of Davidson Canyon which feeds Cienega Creek, the Plan of > Operations states it will take the electricity from the substation located > at Rita Rd. and I-10, Rosemont's plan of operations states it intends to > use water from an area just west of Corona De Tucson, which I have to admit > is a little closer to Green Valley than the rest of us, but still part of > our Vail community and many more environmental impacts that I cannot think > of at this moment, but include existing scenic views and cumulative > impacts. > > Given the cost of gas (I just paid 3.81 a gallon for diesel), it is utterly > shameful and I ask you to consider scheduling a public meeting as soon a > possible in the Vail/Cienega Corridor area. The Vail School District is > very helpful about locations for public meetings. > Thank you for your consideration. > > > > Citizen Name / Ex. 6 > > > > > > > > ---- Original Message -----> > From: 'Heidi Schewel' <hschewel@fs.fed.us> > > Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 5:00 PM > Subject: News Release: Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental

> > Impact Statement for Rosemont Copper Project > > > > >>> >>> >> For Immediate Release Contact: Heidi Schewel (520) 388-8484 >> Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement for >> Rosemont Copper Project >>> >> (TUCSON, ARIZONA, March 11, 2008) Coronado National Forest Supervisor >> > Jeanine Derby submitted a Notice of Intent for publication in the >> Register to initiate preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement > > > (EIS) > > > for the proposed Rosemont Copper Project. >> The EIS will disclose the potential environmental and social effects >> anticipated as a result of the proposed Rosemont Mine Plan of Operation >> (MPO), including construction and operation of an open-pit mine and > > related >> > facilities, and will determine if the Forest Plan must be amended to >> such mining activities. In addition, the EIS may evaluate other > connected >> actions related to the MPO, such as construction of roads and > utilities. >>> > > As proposed, the Rosemont Copper Project would be located 30 miles >> southeast of Tucson, in Pima County, on approximately 995 acres of > > land, 3,670 acres of National Forest land, 15 acres of land > administered >>> by >> the Bureau of Land Management, and 75 acres of State Trust land. >>> >> While the Forest Service assumes the role of lead agency in preparation >> the EIS, many other federal, state, and local government agencies with > > jurisdiction may also participate. To assist with preparation of the >> > the Forest Service has selected SWCA Environmental Consultants based in >> Phoenix, Arizona. The proponent, Rosemont Copper Company, is > responsible >> for the cost of preparing the EIS. >>> >> A draft EIS may be available for public review by March, 2009, with a > > > final >> EIS projected for completion by November, 2009. >> The Forest Service encourages public participation in the EIS process. > > Three initial public open-house meetings are scheduled this month, as > > > follows: >> > 1. March 18, 2008, Pima Community College Desert Vista Campus, 5901 > South >> Calle Santa Cruz, Tucson, Arizona. 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. >> > 2. March 19, 2008, Canoa Hills Recreation Center, 3660 South Camino del > > Sol, Green Valley, Arizona, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

>> > 3. March 20, 2008, Patagonia Union High School, Highway 82, Patagonia, > > Arizona, 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. > > Other meetings may be scheduled as needed. >>> >> Alternatively, for those who do not attend meetings, an initial public >> comment period runs through April 18, 2008. Agencies or individuals can >> submit comments by mail, FAX, or email as follows: > > Mail comments to Team Leader, Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado > National >> Forest, 300 W. Congress St., Tucson, Arizona 85701 > > FAX comments to (520) 388–8305, ATTN: Rosemont Team Leader >> Or email to comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us >> > For questions about the public meetings or the comment period, the > public > > can call (520) 388-8300. > > Questions about the EIS process should be directed to Ms. Andrea > Campbell, > > Forest NEPA Coordinator, at 300 W. Congress St., Tucson, AZ 85701, or > > telephone (520) 388-8300. >> Additional information about the proposed Rosemont Copper Project, >> including the Notice of Intent, is available online at > > www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont. > > (See attached file: rosemont-noi-news-release 031108.pdf) >>> > > > Heidi Schewel >> Coronado National Forest > > > Media Officer, Fire Information >>> Communications and Technology Team > > Collateral: FOET Chair > > (520) 749-7720 FAX (520) 749-7723 > > hschewel@fs.fed.us > (See attached file: rosemont-noi-news-release 031108.pdf)



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031108.pdf

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:07 PM ----

From: Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 03/19/2008 01:11 PM

Subject: Fw: Rosemont Mine Forest Service First Public Meeting Update and Team Leader NEPA Information Guides

Jeanne-

I'm not sure if you are on Elizabeth's email list. Just an FYI.

I'm glad she is using the Citizen's Guide to NEPA and distributing it. Hopefully it will help her & her community with the process.

Zoe Heller Citizen Name / Ex. 6 Environmental Protection Specialist

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, R9 75 Hawthorne (CED-1) San Francisco, CA 94105 p. 415-972-3074 f. 415-947-8026

--- Forwarded by Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US on 03/19/2008 01:08 PM ----

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

03/19/2008 01:04 PM

To <rinconvalleyis@hotmail.com>

CC

Subject Rosemont Mine Forest Service First Public Meeting Update and Team Leader NEPA Information Guides

Newsletter for March 18th Meeting

Hello all! Just an update after last night's Proposed Rosemont Copper Project Scoping Meeting Invitation at Desert Vista Campus on March 18th 2008.

I have never attended one of these before so I did not know what to expect. There was a room of wall boards, maps, and tables with many consultants from the Phoenix consulting firm hired to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement. There were some media outlets in attendance as well. I had prepared a few comments prior to attending, but there were sheets and pens available to write comments and leave them in a box. Apparently this is not the typical style scoping meeting and those with more experience in this; please feel free to explain it to the group! Thanks!

Additionally, there was a group of younger (late teens 18-20's) individuals there wearing buttons supporting the project. Some of the women had babies and small children. As I went to my car to get something, two of them were walking to a small bus and I overheard them talking (Ist "That was a complete fiasco" 2nd Nah, it wasn't so bad, I've got a job, even if it is in two years...if I'm still straggling (struggling?) it will be worth it....) I later heard from others in attendance that Rosemont had given them dinner and then bussed them to the meeting. That I cannot vouch for, only what I heard and saw with the bus but I found it to be really sad....

What I did learn is that the Forest Service is going to hold future meetings as needed based on the comments they receive from the public. Please be sure to include in your comments that our neighbors in Sahuarita and the unincorporated area in particular, Sahuarita Heights and our neighbors to the South, Sonoita should also be included in the public meeting process as well.

Ms. Derby from the Forest Service has extended the public scoping period for another month and a Vail area meeting has been scheduled. It has been tentatively scheduled for April 5th in the late afternoon/evening at Cienega High School in the cafetorium. We are waiting for confirmation from facilities maintenance to send our official notice. Please keep this date in the back of your mind!

Other important items of note:

- The Cienega Watershed Board has sponsored the printing of the Citizens Guide to the NEPA. I have the brochures here at The Vail Connection. Please call to pick up your copies! Each team leader should have 20 to hand out to people who are interested!
- The next two scheduled scoping meetings are scheduled for this evening, March 19th at the

Canoa Hills Recreation Center 6:30pm-8:30pm in Green Valley and on March 20 at Patagonia Union High School 6:00pm-8:00pm in Patagonia. If you need a map, please email and I can send it.

- · I have the new Vail tee shirts (at The Vail Connection) that Cienega Cat Frat is selling as a fundraiser. They are \$10.00 for Youth Sizes through XL, \$12.00 for 2XL and 13 for 3XL. The larges and XL's are in shorter supply. If you want me to set one aside for you, please let me know! BE amd Q nails has them also!
- When you comment, be very focused. Comments should be directly related to issues associated with the proposed action rather than general advocacy for or opposition to the project. There is no right or wrong and several groups have written suggested comments and questions. I am enclosing my initial comments as a word attachment in this email.

Ok, that's it for now! We have a new family joining us from Sahuarita Heights-The Robucks-Robert and Rose.

Please feel free to email or call if you have any questions! The picture file of the bus is mislabeled Desert View, it should be Desert Vista.

Citizen Name / Ex. 6





March 18th 2008 (2).doc DesertViewMeeti...

(2) doc

From: Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

— Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:07 PM ——

Date: 03/13/2008 11:35 AM

Subject: Fw: Comments-Notice of Public Meeting for Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact State

CC

FYI

Zoe Heller
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--- Forwarded by Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US on 03/13/2008 11:35 AM ----

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

To <rinconvalleyis@hotmail.com>

03/12/2008 09:56 PM

Subject Comments-Notice of Public Meeting for Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact State Here is a comment from one of Rita Ranch Neighbors (in the City of Tucson but within our identified 425 square mile boundaries).

I agree with Ms. Mueller. Regardless of feelings about the mine, there is a process which should be followed. Without adequate impact from the residents who will be directly impacted-whether positively or negatively- the process will be flawed.

Thank You,

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

From: © Citizen Name / Ex. 6

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us

CC: rinconvalleyis@hotmail.com; vailpreservationsociety@gmail.com; nicole.fyffe@pima.gov; tbee@azleg.gov; mmcclure@azleg.gov; sfarley@azleg.gov; ward4@tucsonaz.gov

Subject: Notice of Public Meeting for Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement for Rosemont Copper Mine

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 21:20:34 -0700

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

Regarding: Notice of Public Meeting for Coronado National Forest to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement for Rosemont Copper Mine Project.

I am most concerned that the Public Meeting notice was released (March 11) only a week before the first meeting (March 18, March 19, and March 20). And that if I had not received it by email from a neighbor on the contact list for Pima County that I would not have seen the notice.

One: March 10 - 21 is the Spring Break period for the Vail School District (which will be directly impacted by the proposed mine), and residents may be on vacation during this time. Therefore both the notice and the meetings would be past without any input from these residents.

Two: Both Pima Community College and the University of Arizona have their Spring Break, March 17 – March 21.

Three: I agree with Mr. Huckleberry, that:

If the news release that I received had been mailed instead of forwarded by email – my neighbors and I personally may not have heard about the planned meetings until after they had been held.

Without an opportunity for the residents that will be directly affected by the increased major traffic and other environmental issues of this project – being able to hear and participate in the process – I believe the outcome of the limited public participation will be flawed.

Please note: in addition to those noted above – I have copied the text of this email to my US Congressional Representatives.

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

-- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:07 PM ----

From: To: Stephen Hoffman/DC/USEPA/US

John Forren/R3/USEPA/US@epa, Alan Walts/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, Alexander Livnat/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Ann Lavaty/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, bishop.mike@epa.gov, Barry Cofer/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Benjamin Bahk/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Betsy Curnow/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Brad Autrey/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, Brad Jackson/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Brendt Johnson/ESC/R3/USEPA/US, Bruce Kulpan/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, caruso.brian@epa.gov, cross.jerald@epa.gov, Cami Grandinetti/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Carol

ED_002020B_00033211-00013

Russell/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Cate Tierney/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Catherine Penland/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Clifford Villa/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Dan Bench/P2/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Dan Sweeney/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Daniel Cozza/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, David Reisman/Cl/USEPA/US@EPA, Diana Bless/Cl/USEPA/US@EPA, Douglas Dixon/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Douglas Grosse/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, Ed Hathaway/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Edward Bates/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, Edward Hanlon/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Elaine Suriano/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Eric Carlson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, fisk.joan@epa.gov, Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Jeff Smith/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Aycock/ARTD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Lazorchak/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, Joel Dougherty/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, John Hillenbrand/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, John Tinger/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Js Wilson/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Kaoru Morimoto/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Ken Greenberg/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Ken Marcy/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Ken Sala/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Larry Giglio/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Linda Jacobson/ENF/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Loften Carr/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Loren Setlow/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Lynne McWhorter/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, mcgrath.patricia@epa.gov, MacKenzie.Jean@epa.gov, Mark Doolan/SUPR/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Mark Purcell/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Mary McAuliffe/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Boydston/R6/USEPA/ŪS@EPA, P Unit Chief_HW_CA_R08@EPA, Pamela Travis/R6/USEPA/US@EPA Patricia McGrath/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Rich Vaille/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Campbell/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Rick Wilkin/ADA/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert Myers/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert West/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Shahid Mahmud/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephen Hoffman/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Steven Chang/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Susan Zazzali/MO/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Timothy Dicintio/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Tom Born/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Virginia Garelick/DC/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 04/02/2008 09:58 AM

Subject: Fw: Please send to Natl mining folks - FOREST SERVICE ISSUING PUBLIC LANDS GROUNDWATER

PROTECTION GUIDANCE

--- Forwarded by Stephen Hoffman/DC/USEPA/US on 04/02/2008 12:57 PM ----

Elaine Suriano/DC/USEPA/US

04/02/2008 11:27 AM To Stephen Hoffman/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

CC

Subject Please send to Natl mining folks - FOREST SERVICE ISSUING PUBLIC LANDS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION GUIDANCE

Elaine Suriano Office of Federal Activities Environmental Scientist

Ph-202/564-7162, Fx-564-0072

General Mail Delivery US EPA (2252-A) 1200 Penna Ave., NW Washington DC 20460-0001

Fed EX, UPS or Courier US EPA (Rm 7235 C) 1200 Penna Ave., NW Washington DC 20004 202/564-5400

---- Forwarded by Elaine Suriano/DC/USEPA/US on 04/02/2008 11:20 AM ----

Stephen Potts/MO/R8/USEPA/US

04/02/2008 10:53 AM

To Eric Monschein/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Elaine Suriano/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

cc bsims@fs.fed.us, Gregory Oberley/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Dana Allen/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Wes Wilson/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Jody Ostendorf/OCP/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Robin Coursen/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Joyel Dhieux/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Clark/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Deborah Lebow-Aal/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, James Hanley/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Mylott/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Douglas

Minter/P2/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Mike Wireman/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject FOREST SERVICE ISSUING PUBLIC LANDS GROUNDWATER

PROTECTION GUIDANCE

Eric or Elaine,

Is this something EPA can get a copy of when it is formerly released?

FOREST SERVICE ISSUING PUBLIC LANDS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION GUIDANCE

Date: March 31, 2008 -

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is preparing to issue a long-held internal groundwater resource management manual on addressing water quality issues in its Forest Service-issued permits for a variety of activities on public land, a Forest Service source says.

The groundwater resource manual, which could be released as early as next month, would provide state-based guidelines for protecting the quality and quantity of groundwater on Forest Service lands when issuing "special use" permits, the source says.

Special use permits are issued for a development not already specifically authorized by a federal statute and include permits for resorts, marinas, cell phone towers, public water supplies, pipelines, and "almost any kind of recreational development," the source says. Additionally, road building or other facilities needed to access federally leased resources such as oil "are often permitted though a special use authorization," the source says. Hardrock mining, logging and oil and gas drilling are specifically authorized and are not considered special uses.

The guidance stems from a USDA recognition 10 years ago, the source says, that it was not fulfilling its statutorily required protection of groundwater, and following a 2005 adoption of an internal director for groundwater. The Forest Service began creating the internal technical guidance for managing groundwater in 2006, the source says.

The service is hoping to release the guidance in the next four to six weeks, the source says, barring any more process-related hurdles that have been slowing its release so far.

Much of Forest Service land includes headwaters for major water systems as well as public water supplies, the source says. The document, which will be known as Forest Service Manual 2560, will likely include a comment period of 120 days, to allow enough time for individual states to respond, the source says.

The service has recently been engaging in an "open space" initiative meant to be synergistic with smart growth, the source says. But instead of "looking at open space as a way to protect water quality," the service was considering the water quality benefits of managed growth to be a positive byproduct of open space, the source says.

The source says the idea behind the guidance document would be to encourage the service to take water quality into account when it makes development decisions. Additionally, the guidance would help the Forest Service accept or reject permit applications for public land use based on state standards of groundwater quality protection.

The "states are going to be critical partners" in the policy going forward, the source says, noting that the agency will need input from a number of states in how the guidance will affect individual states with various groundwater protection policies. While some states have extremely stringent groundwater policies, the source says, in others such standards are virtually non-existent.

In addition, the source says, the Forest Service is looking to its new groundwater guidance to aid in examining geologic sequestration sites, where states may look to use public lands as a place for deep underground storage of carbon dioxide, considered an important method in mitigating global warming and greenhouse gases.

The service is expecting Congress to point to public lands as a good place to cite geologic carbon sequestration in future legislation, the source says, and this guidance will aid the agency in the process of locating sites.

The manual follows a memorandum of agreement (MOA) signed Sept. 28 by Forest Service chief Abigail Kimbell and EPA water chief Benjamin Grumbles, where the agency officials agreed to work closely together in an effort to improve water quality on public lands (*Water Policy Report*, Oct. 15, p12). The agreement was meant to acknowledge that 8 percent of impaired waters are on Forest Service lands, and "more than 60 million Americans get their water from sources in the National Forests in addition to municipal water supplies," according to an EPA statement.

The Forest Service's land management policies are, in many cases, very close to what EPA would recommend to help restore water quality, John Goodin, chief of EPA's Watershed Branch, said last year. But the Forest Service does not always conduct its activities with the goal of improving water quality -- something that could be done fairly easily if there was more coordination between EPA and the service, he said (*Water Policy Report*, Aug. 21, 2006, p14).

The MOA is meant to ensure that Forest Service best management practices focus on improving water quality, in order to make it easier for states to forgo developing cleanup plans for impaired waters known as total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). A TMDL is a measurement of the maximum amount of a pollutant a waterbody can take in without violating water quality standards.

Stephen Potts, NEPA Coordinator EPA Region 8 Montana Office 10 West 15th St., Suite 3200 Helena, Montana 59626 Phone: 406-457-5022; FAX: 406-4

Phone: 406-457-5022; FAX: 406-457-5055 At Missoula Forest Service Office: 406-329-3313

E-mail: potts.stephen@epa.gov

--- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 03/31/2008 09:01 AM

Subject: Fw: Gabrielle Giffords press conference today; March 28th 2008 -pictures etc.

FYI

Forwarded b	170e	Heller/RG/LI	SEPA/US on	03/31/2008	09:01 AM
I GIWaided D	Y LUC	1 lellelli (a) O	OLI PUGG OII	0010 112000	00.01 MIVI

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

<rinconvallevis@hotmail.com>

To <vailaz@hotmail.com>

CC

03/28/2008 04:57 PM

Subject Gabrielle Giffords press conference today; March 28th 2008 -pictures etc.

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"Injustice is a sixth sense, and rouses all the others" -Amelia Barr

Here are two really bad pictures because there it is mostly a recording of the meeting from my digital camera that does not transfer movies well via email.

Citizen Name / Ex. 6

Vail/Cienega Corridor Volunteer

Here is the text of the congresswoman's comments. It is a major concession by the Forest Service and, as the congresswoman said, 'A clear win for openness and transparency in government.'

I know a lot of people have seen this, but for those who haven't...

ROSEMONT MINE PRESS CONFERENCE Thursday, March 28, 2008

Thank you for coming today.

I want to welcome Jeanine Derby, Forest Supervisor of the Coronado National Forest and Heidi Schewel, Media Officer for the Coronado National Forest.

We are here to share with you the results of our collaboration to find ways to ensure that the public has a full understanding of the proposed Rosemont Mine EIS process and every opportunity to express their views on this mine.

I am pleased to report today that the Forest Service has agreed to dramatically open up this process and give Southern Arizonans the opportunity to have their voices heard.

This is a clear win for openness and transparency in government and I thank the Forest Service for its positive action in this regard.

On Thursday, March 27, 2008 I met with Corbin Newman, Regional Forester of the U.S. Forest Service, and Jeanine Derby, Forest Supervisor of the Coronado National Forest.

We met at my request so I could personally express my concerns about how we can provide more opportunities for public comment on the proposed Rosemont Mine.

The proposed Rosemont Mine has been controversial – to put it mildly – from the beginning. I share the deep concerns of many in our community about the mine's potential impacts on our water, air and quality of life.

As a result, Southern Arizonans must have sufficient time and opportunity to make their voices heard.

We need to make sure that we can fully identify the issues that concern us.

I made this clear in a March 18 letter to Mr. Newman. I would like to thank him for taking my recommendations to heart.

Opportunities for the public to comment on the mine take place during the preparation of what the Forest Service calls an Environment Impact Statement. This document is required by law and it is a key part of the agency's evaluation of the mine proposal.

Unfortunately, the process has gotten off to a difficult start. Over the last two weeks, since the process was first announced, several events have undermined public perception of the Forest Service as an impartial facilitator.

It was troubling to me personally to learn from press reports about the police being called to one meeting and having the audience 'stacked' by the mining company in another. Regardless of the details associated with these events, I believe significant steps are necessary to restore public confidence, both in the Forest Service and in the EIS process.

This is why, I am pleased we have agreed to the following six adjustments to the Forest Service's course of action regarding the Rosemont Mine:

- The public scoping process will be extended from the original 30 days to 120 days. The closing date for the public scoping process will be extended to July 11th, 2008. This expanded window will ensure that the public has ample opportunity to learn about the EIS process and provide their comments to the Forest Service. It also demonstrates that the Forest Service is serious about collecting public comments.
- Three additional open-house meetings will be scheduled. To ensure ample opportunity for the public to educate itself about the EIS process and provide comments, three (3) additional open-house meetings will be scheduled. One meeting has already been scheduled for April 5 in Vail and another is in the planning stages for Sahuarita. A third will be scheduled in the Sonoita area in the coming weeks.
- All future open-house meetings will begin with an explanation of the process. The remaining open-house meetings will begin with an oral and written explanation of the process. This introduction will provide an overview of the EIS process; the purpose of the open-house meeting format; the type of comments being solicited; the role of the Forest Service; and the identification of officials from the Forest Service, Augusta Resources, and other relevant organizations in attendance at the meeting. The introduction will also explain that the open-house is not intended as a public hearing, and that public hearings will be held on dates and at locations which will be announced at each open house.
- Three public hearings will be scheduled. In addition to the open-house meetings mentioned above, the Forest Service will also schedule three (3) public hearings during the 120 day comment period to allow

Southern Arizonans to express their views in an open public forum. These three hearings will be held in Central Tucson, the Green Valley/Sahuarita area, and the Sonoita/Patagonia area

- The selection process for the EIS contractor will be reviewed. Concerns have been raised about the process employed by the Forest Service to select SWCA as the primary contractor to perform the EIS, and that firm's ability to evaluate the Rosemont proposal objectively. To address these concerns, the Forest Service has agreed to conduct a review of the selection process with the participation of a senior member of my staff and a representative of the public.
- A community work group will be established to participate in the EIS process. A work group will be convened to provide community and technical input throughout the process. This group will include representatives of appropriate public agencies, members of affected communities, and my staff. The group will be charged with assuring that all specific public concerns relevant to the project are raised and addressed in the EIS.

In closing, let me emphasize that the full involvement of the public is essential in order for any public agency to fulfill its mission. This is especially important on an issue as important and complex as the proposed Rosemont Mine.

I believe our agreement to the six action steps described in this letter will help restore public confidence in the EIS process and, ultimately, improve the quality of its conclusions.

Once again, I would like to thank you the Mr. Newman and Ms. Derby for their positive response to my concerns. I also want to acknowledge the significant support from Congressman Raul Grijalva's office. We



GabrielleGiffords...

agree that Southern Arizonans deserve every opportunity to have input on this important issue.



GabrielleGiffords...

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Brent Maier/R9/USEPA/US

Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA. To Cc: Nova Blazej/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

04/29/2008 09:05 AM Date:

Subject: (Rosemont Mine) Feds' consultant hire at issue

rizona Daily Star[®]

www.dailystar.com^e @www.azsiarnet.com

Published: 04.28.2008

Feds' consultant hire at issue

Tucson lawmakers question process of choosing enviro firm for Rosemont mine-proposal study By Tony Davis ARIZONA DAILY STAR

SWCA Environmental Consultants

- Founded 1981, has 350 employees and 22 offices in nine states, including Arizona.
- Ranked as one of the top 200 environmental firms nationally and one of the top 500 design firms nationally by Engineering News-Record, a construction industry weekly magazine.
- Had \$45.8 million in consulting revenues in 2006.
- Worked on a Forest Service review of a proposed Tucson Electric Power Co. line from Tucson to Nogales, and projects in the Prescott, Apache Sitgreaves and Kaibab national forests.
- Worked as an environmental consultant for developers in Tucson and elsewhere.
- Worked on a habitat-conservation plan for the city of Tucson, and endangered-species surveys for Pima County.
- Worked a review of the Dos Pobres/San Juan mine near Safford for the Bureau of Land Management.

The U.S. Forest Service is reviewing the recent hiring process for a consulting firm to help draft an environmental document for the proposed Rosemont mine.

U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords of Tucson asked the service to spell out how and why it picked SWCA Environmental Consultants, a Giffords aide said last week.

Also, fellow U.S. Rep. Raúl Grijalva said he will ask the Inspector General's Office of the U.S. Agriculture Department, the service's parent agency, to review SWCA's hiring.

Grijalva, like Giffords a Democrat, is concerned about whether the company can be objective in judging the Rosemont mine application, given a long track record representing developers and other businesses.

The Coronado National Forest's top official, Forest Supervisor Jeanine Derby, was out of town last week on personal leave.

She won't be available for comment on SWCA's hiring until early May, said her deputy, Reta Laford.

The Rosemont mine, proposed by Canadian firm Augusta Resources, would be built in the Santa Rita Mountains on 995 acres of private land, 3,670 acres of national forest, 15 acres of Bureau of Land Management land and 75 acres of state trust land.

A draft environmental statement is due in March 2009. A final statement is due in November 2009.

Opponents have raised concerns that the mine will draw down the water table, pollute the air, hurt water quality and cause traffic safety problems.

Augusta has said the mine will pipe in Central Arizona Project water from outside and generate lots of jobs.

As of late last week, little information was available on the consultant's selection, including why SWCA was chosen, which companies were considered and how the companies came to be considered.

The amount of money the company will be paid also is not known, although it is known that Augusta will be paying for the environmental review. That's aimed at saving taxpayers money, said an SWCA official.

Giffords also wants to know whether Augusta had recommended SWCA or other

companies, said Ron Barber, Giffords' district director in Tucson.

Augusta issued a brief statement Friday, saying it had not been involved in helping the service decide whom to hire.

"The congresswoman believes that making this information available to her and to the public will ensure the credibility of the service's environmental impact statement for Rosemont," Barber said.

"There's been enough questions that we need straight answers," Barber said.

"Was it three companies or two? (Was) there only one? What was the decision based on, money or expertise? Was it made because Augusta said, 'We want these people'?"

SWCA can be objective because it's routinely represented many local and federal agencies, including the city of Tucson and the Pima County government, as well as the Forest Service, said program director Tom Furgason, the firm's top official on the Rosemont mine issue.

"We have a diverse client base, including several local governments in Southern Arizona," Furgason said.

"It has included some developers, but that's not the majority of our work, by any means."

Grijalva pointed to SWCA's background as a developer consultant, including its role more than two decades ago representing developers of houses on Pusch Ridge and in Ventana Canyon in the Catalina Foothills.

The La Reserve development on Pusch Ridge was particularly controversial during the 1980s and '90s because other scientists blamed it in part for having driven out Pusch Ridge's bighorn sheep herd.

"The analysis that needs to be done needs a high degree of objectivity. I'm sorry that the Forest Service said OK," Grijalva said.

"We're dealing not only with an important issue, but an issue that affects public lands and will have long-term impacts in this whole region.

"We need a firm not so company-oriented. Their history is that whoever writes the check influences the process."

SWCA was founded in the early 1980s by Steve Carothers, who had been curator of biology for the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff.

Carothers has since sold the company, and it is now employee-owned.

"Our long-term interest is in serving the Forest Service," Furgason said.

"By serving the Forest Service well, it helps the service know we can do the same job in the future, if another job comes along."

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- Contact reporter Tony Davis at 806-7746 or tdavis@azstarnet.com.

Brent Maier Congressional Liaison U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region IX 75 Hawthorne St. (OPA-3) San Francisco, CA 94105

Telephone: 415.947.4256 Fax: 415.947.3519

E-mail: maier.brent@epa.gov

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM -----

From: Brent Maier/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Cc: Nova Blazej/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 04/06/2008 04:54 PM

Subject: Re: Fw: Gabrielle Giffords press conference today; March 28th 2008 -pictures etc.

Thanks for sending. The issue of Rosemont Mine did come up in the Giffords meeting and she did raise what she felt was a problem with the public meetings to date. When my summary of all the meetings is completed, I'll be sure to copy you on it. Thanks again.

Brent Maier Congressional Liaison U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region IX 75 Hawthorne St. (OPA-3) San Francisco, CA 94105

Telephone: 415.947.4256

Fax: 415.947.3519

E-mail: maier.brent@epa.gov

Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US

To Brent Maier/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

2008/03/31 13:34 cc Nova Blazej/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject Fw: Gabrielle Giffords press conference today; March 28th 2008

-pictures etc.

Brent, I just received this email regarding a press conference Gabrielle Giffords had a few days ago. If she is still on Wayne's agenda for visits this week, this may be of interest to him. This regards the proposed Rosemont Mine outside of Tucson, a paragraph about which I included in my Nevada/Southern AZ Mining Issues briefing paper. In there I mentioned Rep. Grijalva, but Rep. Giffords is also involved now too. Local residents with serious concerns about the mine, which is in the scoping phase for the EIS, also had serious concerns regarding the way the Forest Service was conducting its scoping meetings. The meetings were not being held in locations near the residents most affected by the project. Zoe Heller on our R9 Environmental Justice Team provided one very active resident with the Citizen's Guide to NEPA, and they have taken it to heart and reprinted it for all interested public. They wrote and made phone calls and got Rep. Giffords involved, which clearly has resulted in significant positive commitments by the Forest Service to involve these residents.

We intend to be involved early and work closely with the Forest Service on this EIS.

Jeanne Geselbracht
Environmental Review Office (CED-2)
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026

----Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 03/31/2008 01:32PM ----

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

From: Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US Date: 03/31/2008 09:01AM

Subject: Fw: Gabrielle Giffords press conference today; March 28th 2008 -pictures etc.

FYI

---- Forwarded by Zoe Heller/R9/USEPA/US on 03/31/2008 09:01 AM ----

E Webb

<vailaz@hotmail.com>

Sent by:

<rinconvalleyis@hotmail.com>
To<vailaz@hotmail.com>

03/28/2008 04:57 PM

CC

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Opportunities for the public to comment on the mine take place during the preparation of what the Forest Service calls an Environment Impact Statement. This document is required by law and it is a key part of the agency's evaluation of the mine proposal.

Unfortunately, the process has gotten off to a difficult start. Over the last two weeks, since the process was first announced, several events have undermined public perception of the Forest Service as an impartial facilitator.

It was troubling to me personally to learn from press reports about the police being called to one meeting and having the audience 'stacked' by the mining company in another. Regardless of the details associated with these events, I believe significant steps are necessary to restore public confidence, both in the Forest Service and in the EIS process.

This is why, I am pleased we have agreed to the following six adjustments to the Forest Service's course of action regarding the Rosemont Mine:

- The public scoping process will be extended from the original 30 days to 120 days. The closing date for the public scoping process will be extended to July 11 th, 2008. This expanded window will ensure that the public has ample opportunity to learn about the EIS process and provide their comments to the Forest Service. It also demonstrates that the Forest Service is serious about collecting public comments.
- Three additional open-house meetings will be scheduled. To ensure ample opportunity for the public to educate itself about the EIS process and provide comments, three (3) additional open-house meetings will be scheduled. One meeting has already been scheduled for April 5 in Vail and another is in the planning stages for Sahuarita. A third will be scheduled in the Sonoita area in the coming weeks.
- All future open-house meetings will begin with an explanation of the process. The remaining open-house meetings will begin with an oral and written explanation of the process. This introduction will provide an overview of the EIS process; the purpose of the open-house meeting format; the type of comments being solicited; the role of the Forest Service; and the identification of officials from the Forest Service, Augusta Resources, and other relevant organizations in attendance at the meeting. The introduction will also explain that the open-house is not intended as a public hearing, and that public hearings will be held on dates and at locations which will be announced at each open house.
- Three public hearings will be scheduled. In addition to the open-house meetings mentioned

above, the Forest Service will also schedule three (3) public hearings during the 120 day comment period to allow Southern Arizonans to express their views in an open public forum. These three hearings will be held in Central Tucson, the Green Valley/Sahuarita area, and the Sonoita/Patagonia area

- The selection process for the EIS contractor will be reviewed. Concerns have been raised about the process employed by the Forest Service to select SWCA as the primary contractor to perform the EIS, and that firm's ability to evaluate the Rosemont proposal objectively. To address these concerns, the Forest Service has agreed to conduct a review of the selection process with the participation of a senior member of my staff and a representative of the public.
- A community work group will be established to participate in the EIS process. A work group will be convened to provide community and technical input throughout the process. This group will include representatives of appropriate public agencies, members of affected communities, and my staff. The group will be charged with assuring that all specific public concerns relevant to the project are raised and addressed in the EIS.

In closing, let me emphasize that the full involvement of the public is essential in order for any public agency to fulfill its mission. This is especially important on an issue as important and complex as the proposed Rosemont Mine.

I believe our agreement to the six action steps described in this letter will help restore public confidence in the EIS process and, ultimately, improve the quality of its conclusions.

Once again, I would like to thank you the Mr. Newman and Ms. Derby for their positive response to my concerns. I also want to acknowledge the significant support from Congressman Raul Grijalva's office. We agree that Southern Arizonans deserve every opportunity to have input on this important issue.





GabrielleGiffords... GabrielleGiffords...

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM -----

"Kristin Cox" <kscox@swca.com> From: To: Nova Blazei/R9/USEPA/US@EPA. Cc Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

07/09/2008 11:29 AM Date:

Subject RE: Rosemont Mine

Thank you so much for getting back to me. We appreciate knowing the appropriate contacts for invitations to become cooperating agencies.

Kristin Cox Environmental Planner **SWCA** Environmental Consultants 343 West Franklin Street Tucson, AZ 85701

Phone: (520) 325-9194 Fax: (520) 325-2033

From: Blazej.Nova@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Blazej.Nova@epamail.epa.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, July 08, 2008 1:48 PM

To: Kristin Cox

Cc: Geselbracht.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov

Subject: Rosemont Mine

Hello Kristin,

Enrique Manzanilla forwarded your message regarding the appropriate point of contact at EPA to request us to become a cooperating agency on the Rosemont Mine EIS. Enrique Manzanilla is the Director of the Communities and Ecosystems Division at EPA Region 9, and he is the appropriate person to address the correspondence to.

Jeanne Geselbracht is the lead NEPA reviewer in our office for mining projects, and she is the primary point of contact for this project.

Kathleen Goforth will be the new manager of our office as of July 21 and is the management point of contact for all NEPA-related work in California, Nevada, Arizona, and Hawaii. Please let me know if you have questions.

Enrique's mailing address is:

Director, Communities and Ecosystems Division U.S. EPA, Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street, CED-1 San Francisco CA 94105-3901

Nova Blazej, Manager Environmental Review Office U.S. EPA, Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street, CED-2 San Francisco CA 94105-3901

t: (415) 972-3846 f: (415) 947-8026

e: blazej.nova@epa.gov

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Connell Dunning/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,
Cc: Rich Campbell/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 06/09/2009 08:51 AM Subject: Fw: Rosemont Mine

Jeanne -

Can you respond to Rich? Are you working on this one? Connell

Connell Dunning, U.S. EPA
Environmental Review Office - Transportation Lead
75 Hawthorne Street, CED-2
San Francisco, CA 94105
phone: 415-947-4161, fax: 415-947-8026
dunning.connell@epa.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

--- Forwarded by Connell Dunning/R9/USEPA/US on 06/09/2009 08:51 AM ----

From: Rich Campbell/R9/USEPA/US

To: Connell Dunning/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 06/04/2009 11:19 AM Subject: Rosemont Mine

Connell,

Not sure if you are the right person. Are we involved/participating in the Rosemont Mine EIS process?

Thanks.

Rich

As background, an Op-Ed in today's AZ Daily Star: http://www.azstarnet.com/opinion/295605.php

County engages in Rosemont mine analysis

Our view: As a 'cooperating agency,' Pima County can help challenge the mine

Arizona Daily Star

Tucson, Arizona | Published: 06.04.2009

We applaud the Pima County Board of Supervisors' decision to work with the U.S. Forest Service as a cooperating agency on the environmental-impact statement for the proposed Rosemont Copper Mine.

The supervisors voted unanimously Tuesday to approve a memorandum of understanding formalizing the county's status in the process, the Star's Erica Meltzer reported.

The county opposes the mine and disagrees with the Forest Service's position that it cannot recommend that no mining activity take place and can only impose requirements on the mining company's plans.

"As a cooperating partner, we now have standing to challenge that," Supervisor Sharon Bronson told us. "We believe they do have the authority" to recommend "no action." "This gives us a better chance to influence the outcome," Bronson said.

As a supervising agency, the county will have more clout on mitigating the mine's impact, Supervisor Richard Elías said.

We believe the environmental impact study must include all options, including the one that would bar Rosemont Copper Company from mining.

To do less than a thorough, complete review of all options would be a disservice to the public.

The company wants to mine on 995 acres of private land and 3,670 acres of U.S. Forest Service land, as well as a small amount of state trust land and other federal land.

Opponents say an open-pit copper mine in the Santa Ritas will cause permanent environmental damage, no matter what mitigating measures Rosemont Copper takes. Representatives of the copper company have said they will use state-of-the-art mining techniques to limit the impact.

Nicole Fyffe, an executive assistant to County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry, told Meltzer that the county "should be able to have an impact as the alternatives are

framed, though we won't be able to have as much of an impact as we'd like because we disagree with so many things."

Pima County will participate in internal meetings and have access to documents and maps during the months-long environmental-impact study of the mine's potential impacts and ways to mitigate them, Meltzer wrote.

The city of Tucson and Cochise County are working on agreements with the Forest Service, but Santa Cruz County declined to participate, Meltzer wrote.

The agreement clearly states that the Forest Service has the sole authority to make decisions about the mine.

Fyffe said the county still will have the ability to lobby at the federal level to stop the mine.

The draft version of the environmental-impact statement is scheduled to be completed by November and the final version will be released in July 2010, Meltzer wrote.

"We have the belief and understanding through our legal counsel that . . . we have a statutory obligation to fulfill the rights of the companies to explore public lands," Teresa Ann Ciapusci, cooperating agencies liaison and project manager with the Forest Service told Meltzer.

"We look for a way that does the best we can do for the land and resources we manage. We'll be seeking to write an alternative solution that does the best we can do to mitigate the effects the mine will have. There's no way to build it without some effect, but we try to mitigate those."

Pima County is correct to become a cooperating agency and to challenge the Forest Service's assertion that it cannot consider a "no action" conclusion on the Rosemont Mine.

—— Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ——

From: Carol Sachs/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Cc: Kathleen Goforth/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 09/17/2009 10:39 AM

Subject: Fw: Review of Coronado National Forest EIS

Jeanne

I suppose the Rosemont project is going to DEIS soon. I figured that your contacting her directly would be best, but I can talk to her if you prefer.

Thank you Carol

---- Forwarded by Carol Sachs/R9/USEPA/US on 09/17/2009 10:34 AM ----

From: "Julia Fonseca" <Julia.Fonseca@rfcd.pima.gov>

To: Carol Sachs/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 09/16/2009 02:22 PM

Subject: Review of Coronado National Forest EIS

Hello,

I am contacting you to find out if US EPA has assigned a lead to participate in the review of the administrative draft prepared for the Rosemont Copper project, located in Arizona, within the Coronado National Forest. Can you let me know?

In addition, I participated in a wonderful EPA-sponsored conference several years ago about hard-rock mining. One of the most important talks concerned recommendations to improve the water quality predictions and mitigations for mining (see http://www.earthworksaction.org/PR_KuipersMaest.cfm#KMREPORTS). I also note that EPA has begun enhanced reviews for Appalachian mines.

Who in EPA Region 9 might I contact regarding new initiatives from EPA in Region 9 that pertain to mining and protection of water quality?

Thank you for any assistance you might provide,

Julia Fonseca, Environmental Planning Manager Pima County Office of Conservation Science and Environmental Policy

NEW ADDRESS: 201 N. Stone Ave. 6th floor Tucson, AZ 85701 (520) 740-6460 FAX (520) 243-1610 Julia.Fonseca@pima.gov

http://www.pima.gov/cmo/sdcp/

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US
To: Julia.Fonseca@rfcd.pima.gov,

Date: 09/17/2009 02:03 PM

Subject: Re: Fw: Review of Coronado National Forest EIS

Ms. Fonseca, I am the primary contact here in R9 EPA for the review of the Rosemont EIS. Please call me if you want to discuss any of the issues. We agree that accurately characterizing the geochemistry and predicting water quality, and properly designing facilities to prevent water quality degradation are extremely important issues to be addressed in the EIS. We will be looking closely at these issues. FYI, I'm attaching the scoping comments we sent last year during the scoping period. I have been following the news accounts, but I haven't seen anything lately from the Forest Service on this project. I look forward to talking with you.



Rosemont NOI.doc

Jeanne Geselbracht Environmental Review Office (CED-2) U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026 From: Carol Sachs/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Kathleen Goforth/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 09/17/2009 10:39 AM

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http://www.pima.gov/cmo/sdcp/

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM -----

From: "Blaine, Marjorie E SPL" <Marjorie.E.Blaine@usace.army.mil>

To: Elizabeth Goldmann/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Co: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 10/08/2009 03:39 PM Subject: RE: Rosemont

Elizabeth:

I have a meeting on Oct 13 with the USFS and BLM to discuss the alternatives as provided by Rosemont's consultant yesterday. Those alternatives do not include off-site alternatives as USFS cannot consider off-site alternatives in their NEPA document. For the (b)(1), which will be an appendix, there will most assuredly be an off-site alt ana which I discussed at length.

I would love to have this discussion but I don't know where the time will come in. Next week is booked, I'm out a Gregory Canyon the week of the 19th, on the Reg Div retreat the week of the 26th, the first week of Nov is booked, I have jury duty the week of Nov 9th, I have to prepare a presentation on Cal Portland to give to the DE IN LA on 17/18 Nov and I'm booked with Pima County on the 19th. The next week my mom is coming for Thanksgiving. WHEW!! On top of that, I have to get my RGP issued and have 3 IPs needing PN's and a slew of jds. And Cal Portland....

Does Jeanne want to try and come over for the meeting with BLM and USFS on the 13th of Oct at 10? I think that would be the most opportune time for her to get involved. Are you all a cooperating agency? Finally, the NEPA alternatives are on the Rosemont website and here is the link:

http://rosemonteis.us/node/390

Let me know your thoughts......I apologize for my ridiculous schedule.

Marjorie

In the interest of the environment, please print only if necessary and recycle

----Original Message----

From: Goldmann.Elizabeth@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Goldmann.Elizabeth@epamail.epa.gov] Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 2:59 PM

To: Blaine, Marjorie E SPL

Cc: Geselbracht. Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov

Subject: Rosemont

Hi Marjorie

Thanks for the update regarding Rosemont. It makes sense from a NEPA and 404 perspective if we can evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives that will satisfy both statutes. Jeanne Geselbracht expressed interest in having an early discussion with Rosemont regarding their alternatives. Given your meeting with them this week, we thought it best to first coordinate with you regarding your meeting and the status of alternatives review.

I know you are very busy, but maybe we can find some time in the next week or two to touch base on Rosemont.

Thanks, E.

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From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US

"Blaine, Marjorie E SPL" <Marjorie.E.Blaine@usace.army.mil>,

Cc: Elizabeth Goldmann/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 10/08/2009 04:32 PM

Subject: RE: Rosemont

Marjorie, I'm out on travel all next week so won't be able to make it to the meeting. I'm curious as to why USFS thinks they can't analyze off-site alternatives. They can and should if they are reasonable: "Agencies shall....Include reasonable alternatives not within the jurisdiction of the lead agency" [40CFR1502.12(c)]. So we should talk with Bev Everson about analyzing the same alts in the EIS as in the 404(b)(1) analysis. Do you know when the 404(b)(1) alternatives will be developed? We'd like to see them to see how they could fit in to the NEPA analysis.

Also, we are not a cooperating agency (lack of resources), but we told USFS that we want to be involved to the extent our resources allow. I reiterated this to Bev just the other day. I'll try to catch up with her again on this when I return from travel. I know you're really busy, but we'll keep you apprised as things progress on this end.

Jeanne Geselbracht Environmental Review Office (CED-2) U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026

From: "Blaine, Marjorie E SPL" < Marjorie. E. Blaine@usace.army.mil>

To: Elizabeth Goldmann/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 10/08/2009 03:39 PM Subject: RE: Rosemont

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From: "Blaine, Marjorie E SPL" <Marjorie.E.Blaine@usace.army.mil>

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Co: Elizabeth Goldmann/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 10/08/2009 05:02 PM

Subject: RE: Rosemont

Jeanne

Very interesting about the off-site alternatives. This is the 4th mining (3 copper, one gold) EIS I've worked on with another Fed agency which is the land manager and I do not recall any of them having off-site NEPA alternatives because the applicant is applying for specific mining claims which would possibly not be available at another site outside of the land managers' purview. I know the USFS is not considering off-site alt with this or if they are, they have kept it quiet.

Rosemont's 404 consultant is working on the 404(b)(1) now and the on-site alternatives are the same as the NEPA alternatives. Of course, my comment was they were putting the cart befor the horse if they had not considered off-site alternatives and we had an interesting discussion about that. They, of course, want to limit the off-site alternatives to this mining district but I don't agree with that so we've still got some hurdles ahead on off-site alternatives. But, the 404 alt presented to me yesterday are the same as the NEPA. I did ask for some additional maps and information so that I can quietly brainstorm any other possible alternatives but they presented 6 different ones to me last night and there are some sequencing alternatives which I told them they must include.

I appreciate your comment on funding since I believe we are all under a CRA. Let's just stay in touch. This is going to move slowly, I believe, so we have some time after this crazy Oct/Nov crunch and if it starts to speed up and we need to talk before Dec, then I'll just have to find a way to clear something out.

Thanks again to you both and we'll keep talking. Have a great holiday

weekend.

Marjorie

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----Original Message----

From: Geselbracht.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Geselbracht.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov] Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2009 4:32 PM

To: Blaine, Marjorie E SPL

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From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US

To: "Julia Fonseca" < Julia.Fonseca@rfcd.pima.gov>,

Date: 10/01/2009 12:00 PM

Subject: Re: FW: Forest Service-Rosemont Copper

Thank you for sending these docs today, Julia. I'm reviewing. When we declined to be an official coop agency on the EIS because of resource constraints in our office, we did tell USFS that we wanted to be involved to the extent our resources allowed. We let them know we'd like to receive preliminary reports, etc., as they became available. I have a

lot of the preliminary reports but haven't received anything new in a while, so I appreciate your keeping me up to date on your issues.

Jeanne Geselbracht
Environmental Review Office (CED-2)
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM -----

From: info@rosemonteis.us

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 09/29/2009 10:39 AM

Subject: Account details for geselbracht at RosemontEIS.us

geselbracht,

Thank you for registering at RosemontEIS.us. You may now log in to http://rosemonteis.us/user using the following username and password:

username: geselbracht
password: M4aETwCfxE

You may also log in by clicking on this link or copying and pasting it in

your browser:

http://rosemonteis.us/user/reset/83/1254245993/aa5671905f1d0653511c86e7ce299450

This is a one-time login, so it can be used only once.

After logging in, you will be redirected to http://rosemonteis.us/user/83/edit so you can change your password.

-- RosemontEIS.us team

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US

To: beverson@fs.fed.us,
Date: 10/21/2009 01:09 PM

Subject: Rosemont scoping comments

Bev, it was good talking with you and Mindy yesterday about some of the issues. I just tried sending you a pdf attachment of our scoping letter from last year, but the file was too big for you to receive. So I guess you'll have to go pull out the original copy of our letter to refer to the things we talked about yesterday. Our letter addressed purpose & need (see page 1 of the comments), reclamation bonding and long-term trust funds (see #6 and #7 under "Mining Waste Management and Land Reclamation"), and Clean Water Act 404 issues (see "Waters of the U.S."). Take a look at these issues in our letter - they may clarify some of yesterday's discussion - but we hope all of our issues in the scoping letter will be addressed in the EIS. Let me know if you have questions about any of them.

Jeanne Geselbracht

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U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026

--- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Brent Maier/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Enrique Manzanilla/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,
Cc: Margot PerezSullivan/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Vreeland/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 10/22/2009 10:03 AM

Subject: Rosemont foes fault agriculture secretary - Tucson Arizona Daily Star



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Rosemont foes fault agriculture secretary

Say he upheld underlings' view that feds can't say 'no' to mine By Tony Davis - Tucson Arizona Daily Star

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has frustrated, surprised and disappointed Tucson-area opponents of the Rosemont Mine by upholding lower-level officials' view that the feds can't legally say "no" to its construction.

Vilsack's Oct. 14 letter, obtained Wednesday by the Arizona Daily Star, raised eyebrows among opponents because it comes as local residents and officials await the arrival of one of Vilsack's deputies to outline their concerns over the proposed mine. And because he wrote his letter to a local advisory body — the Green Valley Coordinating Council — and not to Tucson's congressional representatives — both of whom have stated their opposition to the proposal and criticized the Forest Service for its handling of the issue.

Rep. Raúl Grijalva termed the letter an "affront." Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' reaction was more subdued.

Vilsack's letter dealt with whether the Forest Service can select a "no-action" alternative for the copper mine in conducting its environmental review of the project. Such reviews are required under the National Environmental Policy Act for any federal project or, like Rosemont, a federally permitted project. The open-pit mine would lie mainly on private land but the tailings and waste rocks would be deposited on Forest Service land in the Santa Rita Mountains southeast of Tucson.

Vilsack wrote that the Forest Service can adopt a no-action alternative for a mine only if it's determined that other alternatives would result in a violation of "applicable federal laws."

"Therefore, the Forest Service works with the mining applicant to develop an acceptable and legally compliant plan of operations as an alternative to be considered during the NEPA process," Vilsack wrote, using the common acronym for the National Environmental Policy Act. "This precludes selection of the no-action alternative."

U.S. mining laws allows individuals to enter certain National Forest lands — including those proposed for use by Rosemont — to search for minerals there, Vilsack wrote. The individuals also have the right to locate mining claims, to mine the lands and to use the lands for processing, he wrote.

"Although the Forest Service may reasonably regulate mining activities to protect surface resources, there are statutory and constitutional limits in its discretion when reviewing and approving a mine plan of operations," Vilsack wrote

One of Vilsack's deputy undersecretaries, Jay Jensen, plans to visit the Tucson area on Saturday to tour the mine and meet with local officials, Rosemont Copper officials and opponents of what would be the third or fourth largest copper mine in the United States.

Grijalva's and Giffords' offices were not aware of this letter until told of it by the Star, their spokespeople said.

Grijalva, four-term congressman who chairs the House Public Lands Subcommittee, said he considered the letter an affront in part because the two congressmen had worked with the Forest Service and Agriculture Department in the manner in which they had been asked by federal officials: asking Vilsack in writing for an opinion on the subject: "Doing it by the numbers."

"It seems the process has been pre-empted" regarding Jensen's upcoming visit, but he will not give up, Grijalva said.

"This is not just about Rosemont. It has implications for all over the West."

Giffords is surprised and disappointed by the letter, said her spokesman, C.J. Karamargin.

"We are convinced that the Forest Service has the authority to regulate mining to prevent the destruction of national forests. This means it must fully examine the "no-action" alternative for the Mine Plan of Operation," Karamargin said. "When ... Jensen comes to Arizona on Saturday, he will see for himself the depth and breadth of the problems that will result from this mine and why so many people in this community — including elected officials — are strongly opposed to it."

Stan Riddle, the coordinating council's president, said Vilsack could easily have written this letter 3 1/2 months ago: "For four months we have to wait. It's very disappointing."

Leaving Giffords and Grijalva out of the loop on this letter "is a very bad move," Riddle added.

Environmentalist Roger Featherstone said he's not discouraged by Vilsack's letter.

"Hopefully, we will light a fire under Jensen to go back up the food chain," said Featherstone, director of the Arizona Mining Reform Coalition. "Vilsack is a corn farmer from Iowa. What does he know about the hard-rock mining law, or about the Forest Service in general? It's all coming from his policy wonks under him, a lot of it coming back from the Forest Service in the old regime."

Ironically, the letter was given to the Star by the staff of Pima County Supervisor Ray Carroll, who has been enmeshed in feuds with Grijalva and Giffords over Rosemont in recent months.

"It sends out a mixed message from Washington, with Jay Jensen's visit coming up," said Carroll, whose district includes the mine site and Green Valley. "My concern is: Is this mine now a fait accompli or will things get cleared up on Saturday? I'm proud of the coordinating council for seeking information and keeping their nose to the grindstone — if it hadn't been for their letter, you wouldn't know there was any mixed message."



This is an overall view of where the Rosemont mine's open pit will be, about 30 miles southeast of Tucson in the Santa Rita Mountains. Tailings and waste rocks would be deposited on Forest Service land.

Brent Maier Congressional Liaison U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region IX 75 Hawthorne St. (OPA-3) San Francisco, CA 94105

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---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US
To: Beverley A Everson
beverson@fs.fed.us>,

Date: 10/21/2009 12:54 PM

Subject: EPA's Rosemont scoping comments

Bev, it was good talking with you and Mindy yesterday about some of the issues. I'm attaching our scoping letter from last year, which addressed purpose & need (see page 1 of the comments), reclamation bonding and long-term trust funds (see #6 and #7 under "Mining Waste Management and Land Reclamation"), and Clean Water Act 404 issues (see "Waters of the U.S."). Take a look at these issues - they may clarify some of yesterday's discussion - but we hope all of our issues in the scoping letter will be addressed in the EIS. Let me know if you have questions about any of them.

Jeanne Geselbracht Environmental Review Office (CED-2) U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853



ROSEMONT NOI comments EPA ...

Fax: (415) 947-8026

--- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Beverley A Everson

To: Beverley A Everson

Severley A Everson

Severson@fs.fed.us>

Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 10/06/2009 04:09 PM Subject: Rosemont technical reports Hi Jeanne,

Here's a list of technical reports that we have received from Rosemont Copper Company. Our website doesn't have them all yet, or link to them all on Rosemont's (and I don't think Rosemont has them all). Please take a look at the list and let me know if there are reports that you would like to see, and I'll get copies for you.

Good talking to you today.

Bev

AMEC (2008) Rosemont Copper Company Filtered Tailings Dry Stacks Current State of Practice Final Report, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated November 2008

2. AMEC (2009) Dry Stack Tailings Storage Facility Final Design Report – Volumes I and II, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009

- 3. Anzalone, S. A., 1995, *The Helvetia Area Porphyry Systems, Pima County, Arizona; in Porphyry Copper Deposits of the American Cordillera*: F. W. Pierce and J. G. Bolm (eds.), Arizona Geological Society Digest, n. 20, p. 436–441.
- 4. Applied Environmental Consultants, Inc. (2009) Summary of Ambient Air Quality and Meteorological Data Collected from Startup through the First Quarter 2009 Rosemont Copper Mine Monitoring Site Pima County, Arizona, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009
- 5. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), 1999. Draft Policy for the Evaluation of Mining Rock Materials for the Determination of Inertness.
- 6. Augusta Resource Corporation (2007) *Disposition of Existing Mine Workings Technical Memorandum*, Prepared for U.S. Forest Service, Memo dated November 2007
- 7. Call & Nicholas (2007) Dewatering for the Planned Rosemont Mine Technical Memorandum, Prepared for U.S. Forest Service, Memo dated November 2007
- 8. Cheniae & Associates, Inc. (2007) Clarification of "controlled by Augusta Resource Corporation", Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memorandum dated October 2007
- 9. Cheniae & Associates, Inc. (2007) *Clarification of "Rosemont Land Position"*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memorandum dated October 2007
- 10. Dept. of Mines and Mineral Resources State of Arizona and Seidman Research Institute ASU (2009) *Study of Mineral Production with Reference to the Rosemont Copper Project*, Report dated July 2009
- 11. Dickinson, W. R., 1989, *Tectonic Setting of Arizona through Geologic Time*; *in Geologic Evolution of Arizona*: J. P. Jenney and S. J. Reynolds (eds.), Arizona Geological Digest, n. 17, p. 1–16
- 12. E. L. Montgomery, (2009), Results of Construction, Development, and Testing for Production Water Well (D–17–14)21add[RC–2] Pima County Arizona, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009
- 13. E. L. Montgomery, (2009), Results of Phase 2 Hydrogeologic Investigations and Monitoring Program Volumes I and II, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated February 2009
- 14. E.L. Montgomery (2007) *Conceptual Groundwater Model*, Rosemont Project Technical Memorandum, Prepared for U.S. Forest Service, Memo dated November 2007
- 15. E.L. Montgomery (2007) *Groundwater Well Information*, Rosemont Project Technical Memorandum, Prepared for U.S. Forest Service, Memo dated November 2007
- 16. E.L. Montgomery (2008) *Updated Groundwater Monitoring Program for the Rosemont Mine Technical Memorandum*, Prepared for U.S. Forest Service, Memo dated February 2008
- 17. E.L. Montgomery (2008), *Update to ADWR Model in Sahuarita/Green Valley Area*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated December 2008
- 18. E.L. Montgomery (2009) *Analysis of Long—Term, Multi—Well Aquifer Test November 2008 through January 2009*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated May 2009
- 19. E.L. Montgomery (2009) *Groundwater Flow Modeling Conducted for Simulation of Rosemont Copper's Proposed Mine Supply Pumping Sahuarita, Arizona*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009
- 20. E.L. Montgomery (2009), Second Update to ADWR Model in Sahuarita/Green Valley Area,

Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009

- 21. Fennemore Craig, P.C. (2007) Rosemont Copper Project Unpatented Incorporation Documents Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memorandum dated November 2007
- 22. Fennemore Craig, P.C. (2007) Rosemont Copper Project Unpatented Mining Claims and Sites Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memorandum dated November 2007
- 23. Fennemore Craig, P.C. (2007) Rosemont Copper Project Water Rights Data Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memorandum dated November 2007
- 24. M3 Engineering (2007) *Staging Areas for Pre—Production Memorandum*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memo prepared November 2007
- 25. M3 Engineering (2007) Water Balance Plan Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memo prepared June 2007
- 26. M3 Engineering (2009) *Process Water Pond, Temporary Storage Pond, and Settling Basin Design Report*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated May 2009
- 27. M3 Engineering (2009) Rosemont Mine Outdoor Lighting and Pima County Outdoor Lighting Code Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated June 2009
- 28. Maguire & Pearce (2007) *Letter Addressing Water Rights*, Prepared for U.S. Forest Service, Letter dated November 2007
- 29. Menges, C. M., and Peartree, P. A., 1989, *Late Cenozoic Tectonism in Arizona and Its Impact on Regional Landscape Evolution; in Geologic Evolution of Arizona*: J. P. Jenny and S. J. Reynolds (eds.), Arizona Geological Society Digest, n. 17, p. 649–680.
- 30. Mosher, G. Z, 2005, *Technical Report on the Rosemont Property, Pima County, Arizona (Revision I): Private Report* Prepared by Wardrop Engineering, Inc. for Augusta Resource Corporation, August 16, 2005
- 31. Mosher, G. Z, 2005, *Technical Report on the Rosemont Property, Pima County, Arizona*, Prepared by Wardrop Engineering, Inc. for Augusta Resource Corporation, June 2005
- 32. Rosemont Copper Company (2008) *Letter responding to a Request for Clarification Response by Roger Congdon*, Prepared for US Forest Service, Letter dated February 2008
- 33. Stantec (2007) *Water Supply Pipeline Design Repor*,. Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report Dated 2007.
- 34. Stantec (2009) Water Supply Project Design Concept Report, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated July 2009
- 35. Tetra Tech (2007) *Baseline Geochemical Characterization*. Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report Dated June 2007.
- 36. Tetra Tech (2007) *Dry Tailings Facility Design Report.* Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report Dated June 2007.
- 37. Tetra Tech (2007) *Geochemical Characterization, Addendum 1*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated November 2007
- 38. Tetra Tech (2007), *Geotechnical Investigation Report*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Report dated June 2007
- 39. Tetra Tech (2007) *Hazardous and Industrial Materials and Quantities Technical Memorandum*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memo dated November 2007
- 40. Tetra Tech (2007) *Leaching Facility Design Report.* Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report Dated June 2007.
- 41. Tetra Tech (2007) *Operational Areas Soil Salvage Estimates*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report dated June 2007
- 42. Tetra Tech (2007) *Procedures to be Implemented in the Event of a Temporary Shut—Down in Operations Technical Memorandum*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memo dated November 2007
- 43. Tetra Tech (2007), *Reclamation and Closure Plan*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Report dated July 2007
- 44. Tetra Tech (2007) Rosemont Ridge Perimeter Stormwater Retention Basins Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memo dated November 2007 45. Tetra Tech (2007) Rosemont Stream Classification Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memo dated November 2007

- 46. Tetra Tech (2007) *Site Water Management Plan.* Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report Dated June 2007.
- 47. Tetra Tech (2007) *Storage Areas Soil Salvage Estimates*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report dated June 2007
- 48. Tetra Tech (2007) *Survey of Salvage Topsoil Resources Report.* Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation. Report dated June 2007
- $49. \ Tetra\ Tech\ (2007)\ {\it Viewshed\ Analysis\ Technical\ Memorandum}, \ Prepared\ for\ Rosemont\ Copper\ Company,\ Memo\ dated\ June\ 2007$
- 50. Tetra Tech (2007) $Waste\ Rock\ Facility\ Design\ Technical\ Memorandum$, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Memo dated November 2007
- 51. Tetra Tech (2007), *Waste Management Report*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Report dated June 2007
- 52. Tetra Tech (2008) *Background Ambient Noise Study*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated October 2008
- 53. Tetra Tech (2009) *Aquifer Protection Permit Application Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5,* Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Application dated February 2009
- 54. Tetra Tech (2009) *Geotechnical Addendum Volumes 1, 2, and 3, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated February 2009*
- 55. Tetra Tech (2009) Rosemont Heap Leach Facility Permit Design Report Volumes I and II, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated May 2009
- 56. Tetra Tech (2009) Rosemont "T" Intersection Analysis Acceleration Lane Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated June 2009
- 57. Tetra Tech (2009) Rosemont "T" Intersection Analysis Bypass Lane Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated June 2009
- 58. Tetra Tech (2009) Rosemont "T" Intersection Analysis Stop Sign and Speed Reduction Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated June 2009
- 59. Tetra Tech (2009) *State Route (SR) 83 Scenic Road Evaluation for Rosemont Technical Memorandum*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated May 2009
- 60. Tetra Tech (2009) State Route 83 School Bus Stop Improvements Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated June 2009
- 61. Tetra Tech (2009) Supplemental Noise Study, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009
- 62. Tetra Tech (2009) *Traffic Analysis Report*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009
- 63. Tetra Tech and Errol Montgomery & Associates (2007), *Groundwater Protection Plan*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Report dated June 2007
- 64. University of Arizona Project (2007) Final Report for Phase 1, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Report dated July 2007
- 65. University of Arizona Project (2008) $Phase\ II-Project\ Report\ Final$, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated December 2008
- 66. Vector Arizona (2006) $Preliminary\ Trip\ Report\ and\ Phase\ I\ Sampling\ \&\ Analysis\ Plan$, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Memo dated July 26, 2006
- 67. Vector Colorado(2006) Conceptual Heap Leach Pad Design Layout Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Memo dated June 2006
- 68. Vector Colorado (2006) *Geology and Seismotectonic Review for the Rosemont Mine Siting Study Technical Memorandum*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Memo dated June 2006.
- 69. Vector Colorado (2006) Rosemont Tailings Siting Study, Technical Memorandum, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Memo dated May 2006 $\stackrel{<}{\varsigma}$
- 70. Vector Colorado (2006) *Siting Study Pond Sizing Memorandum*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Memo dated June 2006
- 71. Washington Group International (2006), *Preliminary Assessment and Economic Evaluation for the Rosemont Deposit Pima County, Arizona, USA*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, Report Dated June 2006
- 72. WestLand Resources, Inc. (2007) *Mine Plan of Operations*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, July 11, 2007.
- 73. WestLand (2007) Electrical Power Supply and Water Supply Supplement, Prepared for Augusta

Resource Corporation, July 2007

74. WestLand (2007), *Preliminary Evaluation of Springs Information Transmittal*, Prepared for U.S. Forest Service, Transmittal dated December 2007

75. WestLand (2009) 2008 Ranid Survey of the Rosemont Holdings and Vicinity, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated April 2009

76. WestLand (2009) *Agave Survey of the Rosemont Holdings and Vicinity*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated March 2009

77. WestLand (2009) Lesser Long—Nosed Bat Survey of the Rosemont Holdings and Vicinity, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated March 2009

78. WestLand (2009) *Pima Pineapple Cactus Survey of the Proposed Rosemont Project Waterline Alignment*, Prepared for Rosemont Copper Company, Report dated March 2009

79. WLR Consulting Inc, (2006) *Mineral Resources Estimate Revised Technical Report for the Rosemont Deposit Pima County, Arizona, USA*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, April 2006

80. WLR Consulting Inc, (2006) *Mineral Resources Estimate Technical Report for the Rosemont Deposit Pima County, Arizona, USA*, Prepared for Augusta Resource Corporation, February 2006

81. WLR Consulting Inc, (2007) 2007 Mineral Resource Update for the Rosemont Project Pima County, Arizona, USA: Private Report Prepared by WLR Consulting, Inc for Augusta Resource Corporation, April 26, 2007

Beverley A. Everson Forest Geologist Coronado National Forest 300 W. Congress Street, 6th Floor Tucson, AZ. 85701

Voice: 520-388-8428 Fax: 520-388-8305

Geselbracht.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov

10/06/2009 03:29 PM

To beverson@fs.fed.us cc Subject my info

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--- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: "Richard Kamp" <bepdick@att.net>

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 04/21/2010 06:44 AM

Subject: Fw: Rosemont story now on line

hi--hopefully we can pull the guatemala call together soon take care dick

---- Original Message ----

From: Richard Kamp
To: Roger D Congdon

Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 7:43 AM **Subject:** Re: Fw: Rosemont story now on line

http://www.nogalesinternational.com/articles/2010/04/20/news/doc4bce39c0a66f9554632088.txt

---- just a clunky one.....also inserted as htm

saludos dick

From: Roger D Congdon

To: Richard Kamp

Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 7:29 AM Subject: Re: Fw: Rosemont story now on line

I think you sent us a dead link

"Richard Kamp" <bepdick@att.net>

04/20/2010 06:00 PM To "Aimee Staten" <a imee@eacourier.com >, "Walter Mares" < walt@aznex.net >, "chris dabovich" < managingeditor@bensonnews-sun.com >, "ainslee wittig" < managingeditor@willcoxrangenews.com >, "tim vanderpool" < mvpl@cox.net >, "Jimmy Boegle" < jboegle@tucsonweekly.com >, < dhatfield@azbiz.com >, "Steve Byerly" < steven.byerly@svherald.com >, "dan shearer2" < 3340@townnews.com >, < dshearer@gvnews.com >, "phil vega" < philip.vega@svherald.com >, "jane.amari Amari" < jane.amari@wickcommunications.com > cc"estellean wick" < desertoasis@hughes.net >, "Tom Lee" < tlee@azbiz.com >, "John Mathew" < John.Mathew@wickcommunications.com >

Subject Fw: Rosemont story now on line

---- Original Message -----

From: "Jonathan Clark" <editorial@nogalesinternational.com>

To: "Richard Kamp" <bepdick@att.net>; "Manuel Coppola"

<publisher@nogalesinternational.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 5:35 PM
Subject: Rosemont story now on line

> http://www.nogalesinternational.com/articles/2010/04/20/news/doc4bce39c0a66f
> 9554632088.txt

>



rosemont pit chemhydrodk.txt....

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From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US

To: "Julia Fonseca" <Julia.Fonseca@rfcd.pima.gov>,

Cc: Carter Jessop/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 04/23/2010 04:13 PM

Subject: Re: FW: Rosemont Geochemical Model Review

Julia, thank you for sending this. I also forwarded it on to Carter Jessop, the NEPA reviewer in our office who has taken over the Rosemont project. I am still involved somewhat, but Carter is the lead reviewer now, so please be sure to include him on future emails about Rosemont. Thanks!

Jeanne Geselbracht
Environmental Review Office (CED-2)
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026

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From: Patricia McGrath/R10/USEPA/US

To: Andy Lensink/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Ann Lavaty/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Anna Miller/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, Ashley

Allen/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Brad Jackson/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Cami Grandinetti/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Candice Jackson/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Cara Steiner-Riley/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Carol Russell/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA,

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Setlow/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Lynne McWhorter/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Mark Chalfant/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Mark Doolan/SUPR/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Mark Purcell/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Martha Otto/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Matt Wilkening/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Hardy/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael McKittrick/DC/USEPA/US@EPA,

Mike Bishop/MO/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Pamela Travis/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Patricia

McGrath/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Patricia Smith/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Rob Stites/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Seth Low/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Shahid Mahmud/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephanie Fulton/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephen Hoffman/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Steve Devito/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Steven Chang/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Tom Born/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Van Housman/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, William

Schoenborn/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Dave Tomten/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 08/19/2010 11:01 AM

Co:

Subject: Fw: Forest Service and the Rosemont Mine

---- Forwarded by Patricia McGrath/R10/USEPA/US on 08/19/2010 11:10 AM ----

From: Carol Russell/R8/USEPA/US

To: Gwen Christiansen/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Patricia

McGrath/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Shahid Mahmud/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 08/19/2010 06:26 AM

Subject: Forest Service and the Rosemont Mine

Draft wording appears to run counter to top official's letter

US: 'No' might not be option on mine

Story

Tony Davis Arizona Daily Star | Posted: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 12:00 am

Default font size

Larger font size

The U.S. Forest Service has said once again, this time in a draft report, that it can't legally say "no" to the Rosemont Mine if the mine meets environmental laws.

In an internal version of its draft environmental impact statement's first chapter, the Forest Service stakes out what appears to be a different position than U.S. Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsack has taken.

Historically, the Forest Service has said it can't veto a mine, and the language in the latest draft is similar to what it has said in many previous environmental documents on other mines.

But Vilsack wrote in a letter last October to U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords that the Agriculture Department, the Forest Service's parent agency, hadn't decided whether the feds can say "no" to Rosemont.

That is still the Forest Service's position, despite what the new draft document says, a service official said this week. "The Forest Service hasn't made a clear decision on which way we are going," said Francisco Valenzuela, the service's acting Southwest regional forester. "We will listen to public comment and opinion. It's premature to say one way or another."

Asked whether the document conflicts with Vilsack's statements, Valenzuela said no, but that he can see why people would think so "because it's such a complex subject."

Giffords, a Democrat, said Tuesday through a spokesman that she "fully expects the secretary to keep his promise" to her.

"He told her that no decisions will be made until a 'thorough review' of the proposed mine has been completed," said Giffords' spokesman, C.J. Karamargin.

Written in July, the Forest Service's internal document was given to a group of local, state and federal agencies that are working on the environmental statement for the open pit mine, which would be built on private and Forest Service land in the Santa Rita Mountains southeast of Tucson.

An attorney for an environmental group said he doesn't expect the service to change the wording, or its intent.

"The Forest Service can't legally, publicly, say they've made up their minds before the EIS (impact statement) is finalized," said Roger Flynn, director of the Western Mining Action Project, a nonprofit group based in Colorado that represents a group opposing Rosemont in a lawsuit against the service. "But I don't expect this preliminary position to change if it's like the position they've taken in every other mining EIS I've seen from the Forest Service."

Legally, at issue is whether the Forest Service can choose what's known as the "no-action" alternative when it approves its environmental review for Rosemont. The no-action alternative, which would stop the project, has been selected occasionally by federal agencies reviewing projects.

But because of the 1872 Mining Law, designed to encourage mining on public lands, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management have usually said they can't legally pick the no-action option.

Jamie Sturgess, a vice president of Augusta Resource Corp., which owns the proposed Rosemont Mine's private land, said he can't comment on what he thinks the Forest Service's new document means.

Rosemont Copper, an Arizona subsidiary of Vancouver, B.C.-based Augusta Resource, was given the chance to review the internal draft, and has no suggested changes, Sturgess said this week.

The company believes the no-action alternative's intent "is well defined and documented" in rules and guidelines, Sturgess said.

In the new Rosemont draft, the Forest Service wrote that it may reasonably regulate mining activities to protect surface resources, "but there are statutory and constitutional limits to its discretion when reviewing and approving a plan of operations" for a mine.

"The Forest Service may reject an unreasonable or illegal plan of operations, but cannot categorically prohibit mining activity or deny reasonable and legal mineral operations under the mining laws," it says.

The formal draft environmental document is scheduled for release late this year. Then the service will take public comments on the draft and eventually issue a final decision.

At that time, the service will select an alternative "that allows for orderly development of the mineral resource while reducing environmental impacts," it says in the internal draft.

But Flynn, the mine opponent, said the service's position that it can't deny a legal mining plan is only correct if Rosemont's mining claims under the 1872 Mining Law are valid. The environmentalists' suit is seeking to force a rare, detailed examination of the claims. The service has declined to conduct such an exam, which could delay final approval of Rosemont up to five years.

On StarNet: Find more coverage of environmental issues in Southern Arizona at azstarnet.com/environment Contact reporter Tony Davis at tdavis@azstarnet.com or 806-7746.

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--- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: "Julia Fonseca" <Julia.Fonseca@rfcd.pima.gov>
To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 02/10/2011 10:15 AM

Subject: RE: Mountaintop Mining decision

Thank you! The Spruce No. 1 mine that was halted has a smaller footprint that Rosemont would, and the watershed its in is already degraded.

My understanding is that nothing in Appalachia directly translates to our region because we are in a different court circuit. Nonetheless, in reading over the enhanced avoidance and minimization and mitigation strategies that have been used to negotiate successful 404 permits for coal mines in the same watershed as Spruce No. 1, I was impressed at what EPA had achieved without using the 404(c) authority. Can these strategies be applied to the hard rock mining industry?

Strategies used in approved Section 404 permits for other coal mines in the watershed have included.

- 1. **Avoiding cumulative Impacts**: To address cumulative impacts, EPA asked for deed restrictions in areas previously permitted to be filled in the watershed, where five valley fills were authorized. The three-remaining unfilled sites will not be subject to filling now or in the future. This is an avoidance of impacts to 3,900 linear feet of stream channel.
- 2. Ensuring mining related conductivity (a measure of salinity) remains at levels that will not degrade water quality or streamlife. Extensive chemical and biological stream monitoring is required to demonstrate that conductivity remains below acceptable levels, set in the EPA guidance, before the Corps and EPA will approve additional mining. If this condition is not achieved, the company will not be authorized to proceed with the construction of the next valley fill.
- 3. **Phasing valley fill construction** so that no new mining is approved by the Corps and EPA unless it is demonstrated that water quality standards are being met and public health is being protected.
- 4. **Enhancing mitigation.** A mining company will restore or create of 40,000-plus linear feet of stream. The plan includes a significant monitoring plan and benchmarks for success, an adaptive management plan that provides back up plans if the projects are unsuccessful. It also includes upfront financial assurances. The applicant's benchmarks of success include biological, chemical and physical measures that are intended to replace the lost functions within the immediate watershed.

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From: Carter Jessop/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 03/16/2011 04:55 PM Subject: Rosemont lawsuit

This is the article I was referring to in yesterday's meeting. I don't think it will affect us, but I figured I'd send it to you as an FYI.

http://www.insidetucsonbusiness.com/news/article_8f938006-3611-11e0-8012-001cc4c002e0.html

Opponents file fed suit over Rosemont meetings

Posted: Friday, February 11, 2011 11:00 am | Updated: 1:31 pm, Fri Feb 11, 2011.

Opponents of the proposed Rosemont Copper mine filed a federal lawsuit this week to stop the Forest Service from working on a key environmental study until opponents can join Rosemont in meetings with government agencies.

The lawsuit, filed Monday (Feb. 7) in U.S. District Court in Tucson, alleges the Forest Service violated federal law by regularly including officials from Rosemont, a private entity, in meetings with cooperating government agencies. That means those meetings are subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), which requires public participation, the suit says.

The suit also asks that the Coronado National Forest be required to turn over minutes of all 23 meetings of the cooperating agencies plus other documents in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request filed in September.

The plaintiffs include Dick and Nan Walden of Farmers Investment Co., Gayle Hartmann of Save the Scenic Santa Ritas, and Randy Serraglio of the Center for Biological Diversity. The mine would be on the eastern slope of the northern Santa Rita Mountains, about 30 miles southeast of Tucson.

A Forest Service spokeswoman said she could not comment on the lawsuit. Coronado National Forest Supervisor Jim Upchurch said in a Jan. 14 letter to mine opponents that the agency did not violate federal law by allowing Rosemont in meetings and that the agency would respond to the FOIA request by Jan. 31.

On Feb. 2, Upchurch sent a letter to Serraglio saying the agency does not have a delivery date and is "in the process of reviewing responsive records for Privacy Act and other information that must be withheld in accordance with FOIA exemptions before we transmit them to you."

Serraglio said a handful of documents have been released.

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---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 11/17/2017 03:06 PM ----

From: Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 03/17/2011 03:16 PM Subject: Re: Fw: Rosemont lawsuit

ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

No idea if anyone has ever tried to argue that, but it's a loser of a case. The project applicant or applicants can always meet with the government, representing their own interests.

Don't know the facts of these meetings, but if that's what they were doing, it's not a FACA issue. Maybe as we watch this case develop, we should talk again.

----Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US wrote: ----

To: Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US

Date: 03/17/2011 08:22AM

Cc: Carter Jessop/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Rich Campbell/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: Fw: Rosemont lawsuit

Tom, have we ever seen this argument before? That lead agency meetings with a NEPA project proponent are subject to FACA and, therefore, open to the public (NGO's, etc.)? Is a group of lead and coop agencies with the project proponent considered a FAC?

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Phone: (415) 972-3853 Fax: (415) 947-8026

---- Forwarded by Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US on 03/17/2011 08:15 AM ----

From: Carter Jessop/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 03/16/2011 04:55 PM

Subject: Rosemont lawsuit

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Act (FOIA) request filed in September.

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From: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 06/09/2011 10:15 AM

Subject: From Greenwire -- MINING: Draft U.S. study of Ariz. copper mine reveals likely resource impacts

This Greenwire story was sent to you by: geselbracht.jeanne@epa.gov

Personal message:

An E&E Publishing Service

MINING: Draft U.S. study of Ariz. copper mine reveals likely resource impacts (Thursday,

June 9, 2011)

Manuel Quinones, E&E reporter

A sprawling copper mine proposed for southern Arizona would "irrevocably alter" cultural sites and affect groundwater quality and wildlife habitats, according to a preliminary draft environmental impact statement (EIS) being circulated among federal and state

The proposed Rosemont Copper Mine would affect more than 1,000 acres of private land and 5,000 acres of U.S. Forest Service property east of the Santa Rita Mountains about 30 miles south of Tucson.

The project being proposed by Vancouver, British Columbia-based Augusta Resource Corp. would produce 550 million tons of ore and more than a billion tons of waste rock, the Forest Service preliminary draft EIS said.

The preliminary draft EIS - originally obtained by the Arizona Daily Star - says the proposed mine would affect nine species listed as threatened or endangered, including the Chiricahua leopard frog and the Pima pineapple cactus (Land Letter, July 1, 2010).

The mine, the document says, would also affect 87 historic properties, including 59 prehistoric sites.

"The cultural landscape would be irrevocably altered by the massive movement of rock and soil and transformation of topography," the document says. It says the project will affect springs and seeps, which are considered important to American Indians in the area. The preliminary draft EIS was being circulated among regulators and is subject to change, but environmentalists and other foes of the project say the document offers reasons to halt the mine.

"The Forest Service has outlined the destruction that the Rosemont Mine would cause, yet seems intent on moving ahead anyways," said Randy Serraglio of the nonprofit Center for Biological Diversity in a statement. "This mine would be absolutely devastating to the health and welfare of the people, plants and animals in the area."

Forest Service officials were not available for comment.

The mining company, meanwhile, said the preliminary draft EIS showed that permitting was proceeding on schedule.

"With the preliminary draft EIS now delivered to the cooperating agencies we are one major step closer to the [record of decision]," Gil Clausen, Augusta's CEO, said in a statement. "We are pleased with the progress the USFS has been able to attain in the past several months and expect that they will be able to meet their objective of releasing the draft EIS to the public this August."

The company says efforts will be made to protect historic treasures and reclaim the land with native plants considered important to the area's ecosystem. Company executives are also promoting what they describe as model environmental standards -- solar panels for administration buildings, water recycling and conservation and a smaller footprint than other mines.

"We are on the forefront of a lot environmental [issues]," Letitia Cornacchia, the company's vice president of investor relations, said in an interview. "Rosemont really has been really innovative in ensuring they have the smallest carbon footprint and the smallest [overall] footprint."

The company says the mine will inject \$19 billion into the Arizona economy through its 20-year lifespan and provide a significant percentage of U.S. copper for hybrid cars and power lines.

Law favors mine

The project needs the blessing of several state and federal agencies other than the Forest Service. The Army Corps of Engineers must issue a Clean Water Act permit and U.S. EPA a hazardous waste approval. The Bureau of Land Management is also involved. While many opponents of the mine see the service as a buffer against the project, the agency says its hands are tied. As long as the developer mitigates environmental degradation and follows other legal guidelines, officials say they cannot reject the project. The General Mining Law of 1872 gives wide latitude to hardrock mining companies seeking to extract resources from public lands (E&E Daily, March 16).

"Rosemont Copper is entitled to conduct operations that are reasonably incidental to exploration and development of mineral deposits on its mining claims pursuant to U.S. mining laws," the preliminary draft EIS says.

But the mine's opponents are not deterred. While many lawmakers are calling for more mining of important resources, including copper, Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) has introduced legislation H.R. 1989 to protect the Santa Rita Mountains from mining (E&E Daily, May 27).

Critics are also challenging the validity of company mining claims on Forest Service land that will be used to dump tailings and not extract any copper.

A lawsuit filed earlier this year by mine opponents, including the Center for Biological Diversity, in U.S. District Court in Tucson accuses the Forest Service of illegally working with mine representatives behind closed doors.

"This process has been flawed from the start and should be halted immediately until we can be sure that it's being handled legally and fairly," the center's Serraglio said.

Click here to read the executive summary for the preliminary draft EIS.

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John Hillenbrand/R9/USEPA/US From:

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Carter Jessop/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 08/16/2011 05:02 PM

Fw: Corps of Eng permits for miing Subject:

John Hillenbrand Superfund Division (SFD 6-2) U.S.EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105 (p) 415-972-3494 (f) 415-947-3526

Forwarded by John Hillenbrand/R9/USEPA/US on 08/16/2011 05:01 PM ——

Carol Russell/R8/USEPA/US From:

To: Richard Clark/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Shahid Mahmud/DC/USEPA/US@EPA,

John Hillenbrand/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc: Mike Wireman/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 08/09/2011 07:24 AM

Corps of Eng permits for miing Subject:

Corps of Engineers says it can deny mine permit

Rosemont OK isn't a given

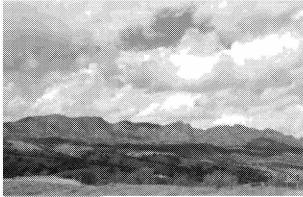
Story

Rosemont OK isn't a given

Tony Davis Arizona Daily Star Arizona Daily Star | Posted: Sunday, August 7, 2011 12:00 am

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GREG BRYAN / ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Caption unavailable

While the U.S. Forest Service says it can't legally say "no" to the proposed Rosemont Mine, another federal agency says it can.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which must act to grant or deny a permit for the mine under the federal Clean Water Act, says a permit denial could stop the project proposed on private and public land in the Santa Ritas southeast of Tucson.

Rosemont Copper hasn't yet filed a formal permit application with the corps. Agency officials have no position on how they'll act on that application.

But the corps says it can say "no" if it determines that the project isn't in the public interest and isn't the least damaging, "practicable" alternative. That's a legal term essentially meaning a project that can be feasibly done at a reasonable cost.

Under the Clean Water Act, Rosemont Copper must obtain a permit from the corps to build diversion structures to reroute water now running in washes around various proposed mine facilities, including its open pit. Such permits are typically required for placement or discharge of fill material into rivers, streams, washes and adjacent wetlands that fall under the corps' legal jurisdiction.

Five law professors around the country, including three with experience on Clean Water Act issues, and an attorney for the property-rights-oriented Pacific Legal Foundation agreed that the Corps of Engineers can legally deny a permit for a mine on federal land.

The Forest Service has said several times since 2008 that it cannot say "no" to a mine because of the 1872 Mining Law and other federal laws and regulations that support the right of companies to mine federal land.

But that position doesn't remove Rosemont's obligation to meet the Clean Water Act and other federal laws, said the law professors, who all specialize in natural-resource issues. They include Jan Laitos of the University of Denver, Jonathan Adler of Case Western University in Ohio, Royal Gardner of Stetson University in Florida and Mark Squillace of the University of Colorado.

"The fact that someone has a right to mine does not mean they have a right to discharge," said the fifth expert, Patrick Parenteau, a Vermont Law School professor and former attorney for the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Wildlife Federation who has done extensive Clean Water Act-related litigation.

Common request

Commonly known as 404 permits, named after Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, these permits are sought regularly from the corps for projects such as subdivisions, shopping centers, roads and bridges that cause discharge of fill material into rivers, washes and wetlands.

About 101 acres of washes in the area of the Rosemont Mine project are considered to fall under the corps' jurisdiction, an agency official said. They include Barrel Canyon, Wasp Canyon, McCleary Canyon, Scholefield Canyon and Gunnery Range Wash.

Barrel Canyon takes stormwater runoff from the other canyons, then flows into Davidson Canyon - a prized riparian area south of Interstate 10 that contains a Pima County preserve. About 10 miles north of Barrel Canyon, Davidson flows into Cienega Creek - home of a second county preserve.

Placement of fill material into a wash can involve a wide variety of activities, said Marjorie Blaine, a senior regulatory project manager in the corps' Tucson office.

"It might be mass grading a watercourse in order to level the ground for a leach pad or waste-rock facility," said Blaine, adding that that is just a general example.

To do that, the company would have to build a channel to divert water flows around the leach pad or waste-rock area, she said.

The mine can't go forward without a 404 permit because watercourses that are under the corps' jurisdiction lie within the open-pit site and in the area of its leach pad and tailings facility, she said.

If the company could revise its project to avoid those areas, Rosemont could go forward without that permit, Blaine said.

In a statement, Rosemont Copper President and CEO Rod Pace said company officials anticipate the corps' timely approval of its permit, "and we believe the Rosemont Copper project will set new standards for the responsible development of mineral resources."

More than 300 studies and reports have been conducted for the company to ensure its plans will meet all requirements, he said.

"The Rosemont project has been designed with the latest technology to minimize the footprint of the mine, restore the rock storage areas to similar contours ... revegetate with native plants, reduce impacts to important historical and cultural sites and recycle and recharge water," Pace said.

The corps has approved more than 90 percent of the tens of thousands of permit applications it has received nationally in recent years, agency records show. But the corps commonly imposes conditions on a project to try to reduce its environmental impacts.

Rosemont, like other applicants, will be required to avoid discharges of fill material to the maximum extent possible, and minimize such discharges when impossible to avoid them, Blaine said.

AT A GLANCE

Factors the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must consider under federal rules regarding Rosemont's Clean Water Act permit include:

- It must decide if issuing the permit would be in the public interest. That requires balancing costs and benefits, based on many factors. They include conservation, economics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, water supply and conservation, considerations of property ownership, water quality and many other issues.
- The agency must determine if the proposed project is the least environmentally damaging alternative that can be carried out when cost, logistics and technology are considered. Legally, the agency must choose a "practicable" alternative that is reasonable in terms of a project's overall scope and cost.
- The corps must consider "direct, indirect and cumulative" effects of Rosemont's activities on federally regulated washes.
- The company must take measures to offset the effects of what is considered to be the least environmentally damaging alternative.

Read more:

http://azstarnet.com/business/local/article_bc66bf97-1e8f-566e-8364-d48d83409cff.html#ixzz1UXcwNvpwCar ol Russell U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPR-EP) 1595 Wynkoop

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From: Carter Jessop/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jeanne Geselbracht/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,

Date: 09/27/2011 11:05 AM

Subject: EPA's comments on Rosemont Copper in the Arizona Daily Star

http://azstarnet.com/business/local/article_0958fb2a-55a2-59fe-9254-7b88b55f6f5a.html http://azstarnet.com/business/local/article_34d4ebbc-59ae-594b-bd22-358e92bf2fca.html

Also that article about solar energy at Rosemont:

http://azstarnet.com/business/local/image_ce01167e-2eab-5cec-a1e8-c50d5a6e687f.html

Carter W. Jessop U.S. EPA, Region 9 Environmental Review Office (CED-2) 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105 (415) 972-3815 jessop.carter@epa.gov